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East Europe Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1798

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CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Absence of Romanian Contribution to East Europe History Study Lamented (Editorial Report).....	1
Briefs	
Albanian-Yugoslavian Agreement	2

ALBANIA

Law on Honorary Titles, Decorations Published (GAZETA ZYRTARE, Feb 80)	3
---	---

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Briefs	
Russian Language Summer Camps	18

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Deputy Culture Minister Defends Policy Towards Writers (Klaus Hoepcke Interview; DIE ZEIT, 16 May 80)	19
Empty Shelves, Sympathy for Olympic Boycott Reported (Richard Becker; FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, 12 Jun 80)	27

HUNGARY

Varnai Views Anti-U.S. Attitudes in Western Europe (Ferenc Varnai; NEPSZABADSAG, 8 Jun 80)	29
---	----

KISZ Secretary's Role Representing Youth Interests Defined (Istvan Ruzsinszky; IFJU KOMMUNISTA, 1980)	33
Makeup, Functions of KISZ Groups Explained (Gabor Molnar; IFJU KOMMUNISTA, 1980)	36
POLAND	
Systematic Causes of Overcentralization Examined (Ernest Skalski; POLITYKA, 7 Jun 80)	43
Revision of Current Price Subsidy System Called For (Andrzej Mozolowski; POLITYKA, 3 May 80)	50
Prevention, Treatment of Circulatory Diseases Discussed (Maria Hofman; SLUZBA ZDROWIA, 16 May 80)	55
ROMANIA	
Members of GNA Parliamentary Groups Named (BULETINUL OFICIAL, 1 Apr 80)	60
Officers of Grand National Assembly Permanent Commissions (BULETINUL OFICIAL, 1 Apr 80)	61
Evidence of Atheism Among Dacians Discussed (Eugen Fruchter, Gabriel Mihaescu; ERA SOCIALISTA, 20 May 80)	62
Briefs	
Presidential Appointments	64
Ambassador to Syria	64
YUGOSLAVIA	
Briefs	
Criticism of Lawyers	65

ABSENCE OF ROMANIAN CONTRIBUTION TO EAST EUROPE HISTORY STUDY LAMENTED

[Editorial Report] Bucharest REVISTA DE ISTORIE in Romanian April 1980 pp 802-809 publishes a review by Dan A. Lazarescu of "Studies in East European History," Volume I, E.J. Brill, Leiden, 1977, Keith Hitchens, editor. In addition to Hitchens, other professors from the United States and Canada--Charles Jelavich, from the University of Indiana, Ralph Fisher, from the University of Illinois, and Peter Buck, from the University of Toronto--as well as from Eastern and Central Europe are involved in this project on the social history of the peoples of Eastern Europe. The first volume contains nine papers--all by European scholars: Prof Hans Mommsen from the University of Bochum [Germany]; professors J. Prunk and F. Pozman, from the University of Ljubljana; Prof Elsa Tomac, from the University of Zagreb; Prof Walentyne Najdus, from the University of Warsaw; Prof Enver Redzic, from the University of Sarajevo; Polish historian Stefan Kieniewicz; Prof Laskiewicz, from the University of Warsaw; Prof Emil Niederhauser and Prof Maria Mayer, from the University of Budapest.

The reviewer concludes with the statement: "It is regrettable that the editors of this first volume of studies devoted to the social and political problems of Eastern Europe did not call upon Romanian researchers, too, in order to have a real overall view of the problems treated."

CSO: 2700

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ALBANIAN-YUGOSLAVIAN AGREEMENT--The Tirana University delegation led by Prof Petrit Radovicka that attended the celebrations on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Pristina University has returned to Albania. The delegation also signed a protocol for educational and scientific cooperation for the 1980-81 between the two universities. The protocol was signed by Prof Petrit Radovicka, rector of Tirana University, and Prof Dr Gazmend Zajmi, rector of Pristina University. [Text] [Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 6 Jun 80 AU]

CSO: 2100

LAW ON HONORARY TITLES, DECORATIONS PUBLISHED

Tirana GAZETA ZYRTARE in Albanian No 1, Feb 80 pp 10-28

[Law on Honorary Titles and Decorations of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania]

[Text] With the aim that honorary titles and decorations, as high moral stimuli, will play a great role in compensating and inspiring the working masses in their self-sacrificing work, in achieving ever greater victories in the complete building of socialism in Albania, in defending Marxism-Leninism with unswerving fidelity, and in strengthening the defense capability of our socialist country, on the basis of Article 67 of the Constitution, the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania decrees:

Article 1

The Title of "Hero of the People"

"Hero of the People" is the highest title of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and is given to citizens, districts, cities, villages, military units, small units and sub-units, social organizations, which, with works of heroism, have performed great services for the fatherland and the people.

Article 2

The Title of "Hero of Socialist Labor"

"Hero of Socialist Labor" is the highest title in the domain of the building of socialism in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and is given to citizens, districts, cities, villages, social organizations, institutions, enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, factories, sectors, brigades, military units, small units and sub-units and groups of workers for outstanding and enduring achievements of great importance for the entire country, in the sector of the economy, science, culture, art and the technical-scientific revolution and for most outstanding activity and merits in the service of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 3

The Order of Freedom

The "Order of Freedom" is given to citizens, districts, cities, villages, social organizations, institutions, enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, factories, sectors, brigades, military units, small units and sub-units and groups of workers for high patriotic merits in ensuring the freedom, territorial integrity and independence of the country and for outstanding services in the socialist construction of the country and in strengthening the defense capability of the Fatherland.

The "Order of Freedom" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 4

The Order of the Flag

The "Order of the Flag" is given to citizens, districts, cities, villages, social organizations, institutions, enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, sectors, brigades, military units, small units and sub-units and groups of workers for very great activity and merits in the socialist construction of the country and in the strengthening of the defense capability of the Fatherland, for high quantitative and qualitative achievements in industry, mining, agriculture, construction, transportation, etc., and for high merits in the field of the sciences, education, art and culture.

Article 5

All those who are decorated with the "Order of the Flag" for activity during the National Liberation War will continue to hold this order for the reasons contained in the certificate issued.

Article 6

The Medal of Remembrance

The "Medal of Remembrance" is given to individuals and formations of the National Liberation Army and others who took part in the National Liberation War prior to 10 July 1943 (the date of the formation of the General Staff of the National Liberation Army), without interruption, up to the liberation of Albania, with weapons in hand or with organized political activity.

Article 7

The "Partisan Star" Order

The "Partisan Star" order is given to active and reserve officers of the People's Army, of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and of the Volunteer

Forces of Peoples Self-Defense, to military units, small units and sub-units for special political-combat merits and for the leadership, with great heroism, of military units, small units and sub-units during wartime.

The "Partisan Star" order has three classes: I, II, and III.

Article 8

The Order of Skenderbeg

The "Order of Skenderbeg" is given to active and reserve officers of the People's Army, of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and of the Volunteer Forces of Peoples Self-Defense, to military units, small units and sub-units for outstanding activity and leadership in war, for high political-combat qualities and for great services to the Fatherland and the people in the field of the organization, training, modernization, and further strengthening of the Armed Forces of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

The "Order of Skenderbeg" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 9

The Order and Medal "For Patriotic Activity"

The order and medal "For Patriotic Activity" is given to individuals who have distinguished themselves by their patriotism and by their activity with or without weapons in the struggles of the people for national independence, freedom and progress and who have performed great service for the Fatherland and the people in all fields.

The order "For Patriotic Activity" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 10

The Order "For the Defense of the Socialist Fatherland"

The order "For the Defense of the Socialist Fatherland" is given to officers, non-commissioned officers, soldiers, active and reserve members of the armed forces, policemen, units, small units and sub-units of the People's Army, of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, of the Volunteer Forces of Peoples Self-Defense and any citizens who, in the case of broad scale provocation or aggression against the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, distinguish themselves as a result of their skill in commanding, the brilliant execution of the special military duty assigned to them, and the brilliant use of combat technology or who carry out courageous actions of bravery and self-sacrifice in order to repel the attacks of the enemy.

The order "For the Defense of the Socialist Fatherland" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 11

The order "For the Defense of the Socialist Fatherland" is also given to other citizens who, even though they are not members of the armed forces, participate directly in combat and perform feats of bravery or distinguish themselves by the important assistance which they give to the people's Army, the forces of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Volunteer Forces of People's Self-Defense at the time of a struggle and battles to defend the socialist fatherland.

Article 12

The Order "The Red Flag of Labor"

The order "The Red Flag of Labor" is given to citizens, districts, cities, villages, social organizations, institutions, enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, military units, small units and sub-units and groups of workers who distinguish themselves in a special manner in their efforts for the socialist construction of the country, for the strengthening of the defense capability of the Fatherland, for great quantitative and qualitative achievements in the economy and in transportation, mining, agriculture, construction, trade, etc., and in the field of the sciences, education, art, culture and other domains.

The order "The Red Flag of Labor" has two classes: I and II.

Article 13

The Title "Heroine Mother"

The title "Heroine Mother" is given to mothers who have given birth to, raised and educated eight or more children in the spirit of socialist patriotism, with love for work, with the desire to put the general interest above personal interest, who are activists and who have had good results in work.

This title is given to mothers when the children are living and when the youngest has reached the age of 1 year. Children who died in the National Liberation War or who were declared missing in action and who did not have a bad political attitude, as well as children who died carrying out their duty in the general interest, are counted as if they were living.

Article 14

The Titles "Teacher of the People" and "Merited Teacher"

The title "Teacher of the People" is given to teachers who have had an activity of more than 15 years in preschool, eight-year, intermediate and higher educational institutions and who distinguish themselves particularly by their untiring work in the development of popular education, in the

advancement and revolutionization of our new school, in the Communist education of the younger generation, in the improvement of the knowledge of the people and by their broad participation in the construction of the new society in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 15

The title "Merited Teacher" is given to teachers who have had an activity of more than 10 years in preschool, eight-year, intermediate and higher educational institutions and who are distinguished, particularly, by their untiring work for the development of popular education, the advancement and revolutionization of our new school, the Communist education of the younger generation and by their broad participation in social life, and in the improvement and development of the knowledge of the people.

Article 16

The Titles "Artist of the People," "Painter of the People," "Sculptor of the People," "Merited Artist," "Merited Painter" and "Merited Sculptor"

The titles "Artist of the People," "Painter of the People," "Sculptor of the People," "Merited Artist," "Merited Painter" and "Merited Sculptor" are given in the field of the arts for the creation of works with a high artistic value, which portray the heroic past of our people, its historic victories, its glorious work for the building of socialism and who help in the Communist education of the working masses.

Article 17

The title "Artist of the People" is given to the most distinguished singers, composers, conductors, instrumentalists, directors and actors of the theater, the opera, motion pictures, and variety shows, to ballet masters and ballet artists and folk dancers, who are members of the Union of Writers and Artists, who have created work of the highest ideological and artistic worth and have made a special contribution to the development of musical, theatrical, choreographic and cinematographic art in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 18

The titles "Painter of the People" and "Sculptor of the People" are given to the most distinguished painters and sculptors, members of the Union of Writers and Artists, who have created works of high artistic value in the field of painting, sculpture, the graphic arts, poster making, caricature, decorative arts and the arts in general and have special merits in developing the figurative arts in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 19

The title "Merited Artist" is given to singers, composers, conductors, instrumentalists, directors and actors of the theater, the opera, motion

pictures, and variety shows to ballet masters and folkdance and ballet artists, members of the Union of Writers and Artists, who have done work of very good ideological and artistic quality and who have merits in developing the musical, theatrical, choreographic and cinematographic art of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 20

The titles "Merited Painter" and "Merited Sculptor" are given to painters and sculptors, members of the Union of Writers and Artists, who have created works of very good ideological and artistic quality in the field of painting, sculpture, the graphic arts, poster making, caricature, the decorative arts and the arts in general and have merits in developing the figurative arts in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 21

The Title "Distinguished Worker of Science and Technology"

The title "Distinguished Worker of Science and Technology" is given to workers in the field of physics, mathematics and the natural sciences, to engineers, geologists, agronomists, zootechnologists, economists, physicians, members of the armed forces, workers and other cadres in the field of science and technology for special and valuable work in field of economy, science and technology for discoveries and achievements of particular importance for the building of socialism in the country and for the defense of the Fatherland.

Article 22

The "Order of Labor" and the "Medal of Labor"

The "Order of Labor" and the "Medal of Labor" are given mainly to workers in production, to districts, cities, institutions, enterprises, factories, sectors, worksites, brigades, groups of workers, etc., who are especially outstanding in their work for the socialist construction of the country, for the strengthening of the defense capability of the country, for high yields and achievements in production, for special merits in management and organization, for the further development of the technical-scientific revolution, for innovations and inventions of great importance, for very great care in the utilization of machines and for protecting socialist property.

The "Order of Labor" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 23

The Order and Medal "For Distinguished Work in Mining and Geology"

The order and medal "For Distinguished Work in Mining and Geology" is given to petroleum, mining, metallurgy and geology workers, to workers in the

apparatus of the Ministry of Industry and Mines, enterprises, plants, factories, research institutions, brigades, groups of workers, expeditions, etc., which are distinguished, in a special manner, for high achievements in production and in geological research and for special merits in organization and management, for the development of the technical-scientific revolution, for the full utilization of machinery and for the proper maintenance of socialist property.

The order "For Distinguished Work in Mining and Geology" had three classes: I, II and III.

Article 24

The Order and Medal "For Distinguished Work in the Agricultural Economy"

The order and medal "For Distinguished Work in the Agricultural Economy" is given to workers in agricultural production, agricultural machinery, in the apparatus of the Ministry of Agriculture, of institutions and enterprises of the agricultural sector, of enterprises for the collection of agricultural products and to agricultural institutions and enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, sectors, brigades and groups of workers who distinguish themselves, in a special manner, in increasing agricultural production, in achieving high yields in various branches of the agricultural economy, for special merits in management and organization, for high production of selected seeds, for the improvement of the breed of livestock, for the further development of fruit-growing, for the full utilization of agricultural machinery, for very good work in the sector of irrigation and land improvement, for the protection and further development of forests and for the development of the technical-scientific revolution in agriculture.

The order "For Distinguished Work in the Agricultural Economy" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 25

The Order and Medal "For Distinguished Services in the Field of Defense"

The order and medal "For Distinguished Services in the Field of Defense" is given to officers, non-commissioned officers, pupils and students of military schools, active and reserve members of the military and police officers, of the Ministry of People's Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Volunteer Forces of People's Self-Defense, to the armed school youth, to military units, small units, sub-units and institutions.

For special merits, outstanding organizational skills in the management of a unit, small unit, sub-unit and institution and for very good progress in implementing the military line of the party, demonstrating high achievements in the mastery of the political-combat and technical-professional training program;

For particularly outstanding work in the analysis and implementation of the Military Art on the People's Struggle, which has raised to a high level the strengthening of permanent combat and revolutionary preparedness and the defense capability of the Fatherland,

For particularly careful work and very great progress for the execution, in quantity and quality, of defensive fortification work and for the administration of the material and monetary assets on the unit, small unit, sub-unit and institution which he directs (or where he works).

The order "For Distinguished Services in the Field of Defense" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 26

The Order and Medal "For Distinguished State and Social Services"

The order and medal "For Distinguished State and Social Services" is given to workers of party organs, of state organs and social organizations, to members of the peoples councils and to activists who distinguish themselves in a special manner in the state and social sectors, for great services which they have done for the party, the Fatherland and the people, for special merits in management and organization, for very good work in the development and democratization of the people's power, for very good service in the field of socialist legality, for very good management of the social organization and for putting it into action for the execution of the assigned tasks.

The order "For Distinguished State and Social Services" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 27

The Order and Medal "Naim Frasheri"

The order and medal "Naim Frasheri" is given to teachers of preschool, eight-year, intermediate and higher education institutions and to teaching and educational cadres of other educational institutions, boarding schools, etc., and to workers of artistic, cultural and scientific institutions; to workers in the field of culture, writers, critics, newsmen, composers, conductors, instrumentalists, directors of the theater, the opera, the ballet, motion pictures and variety shows, to ballet masters, singers and folk dancers and to actors and artists of all types, to workers of the apparatus of the Ministry of Education and Culture, of the Union of Writers and Artists of Albania, of the Union of Journalists of Albania for very good work and achievements in the field of education of the younger generation, in the refining and execution of pedagogical methods, in the development and dissemination of information for the Communist education of workers and

in cultural-artistic activity, for the ideological and artistic development of our art; for very valuable work in the field of education, culture, science, literature, art and journalism; for very good creative work and for special merits in management and organization.

The order "Nalm Frasheri" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 28

The Order and Medal for Military Service

The Order and Medal for Military Service is given to officers, non-commissioned officers, pupils and students of military schools, soldiers, active and reserve, as well as police, of the Ministry of People's Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Volunteer Forces of People's Self-Defense, to the armed school youth, to military units, small units and sub-units and institutions, for very good service in the political-combat training of the armed forces, for special merits in management and organization, for the implementation in an exemplary manner and promptly of special duties dealing with the strengthening of the combat readiness of the Armed Forces.

The Order for Military Service has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 29

The Order of Bravery and the Medal of Bravery

The "Order of Bravery" and the "Medal of Bravery" are given to citizens, families, military units, small units and sub-units, and administrative units which participated in the National Liberation War and struggled with bravery and self-sacrifice against the occupiers and traitors for the liberation of the Fatherland and of the Albanian people and for bravery shown in cases of broad scale aggression or provocation against the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 30

All those who are recipients of the "Medal of Remembrance" are also given the "Medal of Bravery."

Article 31

The Medal of Liberation

The "Medal of Liberation" is given to all those who have struggled with weapon in hand for the liberation of the country and the people from the foreign occupiers and traitors of the country.

Article 32

The Order and Medal "Red Star"

The order and medal "Red Star" is given to officers, non-commissioned officers, pupils and students of the military schools, soldiers, both active and reserve, and police of the Ministry of People's Defense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Volunteer Forces of People's Self-Defense, to the armed school youth, to military units, small units, sub-units and institutions for increasing, strengthening, organizing and modernizing the Armed Forces of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, for very good leadership of small units and sub-units during wartime for the achievement of victory; for very good achievements in the leadership of small units and sub-units in the struggle against the enemies of the people in peace time, for the protection of the peaceful work of the people from spies and saboteurs and for works of bravery and for the execution of duties for the achievement of victories during wartime.

The order "Red Star" has three classes: I, II and III.

Article 33

The Medal "For Many Years of Service in the Armed Forces"

The medal "For Many Years of Service in the Armed Forces" is given to active officers and non-commissioned officers of the armed forces who have completed 25 years of service and have distinguished themselves in their work for the implementation of the assigned duties:

- a) for conscientious and untiring work for the strengthening and modernization of the Armed Forces;
- b) for high consistency and conscientiousness in the implementation of the military line of the party in the Armed Forces and of the requirements of the Military Art on the People's War.

Article 34

The Order and Medal "For Acts of Bravery"

The order and medal "For Acts of Bravery" are given to officers, non-commissioned officers, active and reserve soldiers and police of the Armed Forces and other citizens for acts of bravery, for courageous leadership, for demonstrated skill in the leadership of military small units and sub-units on the battlefield, in the protection of the state border and of the social system, in the struggle with saboteurs, spies and other enemies of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 35

The title "Distinguished Master of the Profession"

The title "Distinguished Master of the Profession" is given to workers in various branches of labor and production who are true masters of their profession and who have the highest level of certification of the respective skill.

Workers who will merit this title, in addition to having a complete mastery of their profession, must produce high quality products, reduce cost, raise productivity in work, fulfill the state plan in a regular manner and in all the technical-economic indicators. They must be an example in work and discipline, participate actively in the technical-scientific revolution and teach the profession to others.

Article 36

The Order "Praise to the Mother"

The order "Praise to the Mother" is given to mothers who have given birth to, raised and educated from four to seven children in the spirit of socialist patriotism, with love for work, with the desire to place the general interest above personal interests, who are activists and have had good results in work.

This order is given to mothers when the children are living and when the youngest has reached the age of 1 year. Children who died in the National Liberation War or who were declared missing in action and who did not have a bad political attitude and those who died in the exercise of their duty for the general interest are counted as if they were living.

Article 37

The order "Praise to the Mother" has three classes: I, II and III.

The order "Praise to the Mother," Class I is given to mothers who have given birth to, raised and properly educated seven children.

The order "Praise to the Mother," Class II, is given to mothers who have given birth to, raised and properly educated six children.

The order "Praise to the Mother," Class III is given to mothers who have given birth to, raised and properly educated four or five children.

Article 38

The Order and Medal "For the Defense of the State Border of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania" [RPSSH]

The order and medal "For the Defense of the State Border of the RPSSH" is given to active and reserve soldiers, border units and sub-units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for significant achievements, for excellent service, organization and management and for untiring work in the execution of the duty to defend the state border of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and for high political-combat and professional training.

Article 39

The order and medal "For the Defense of the State Border of the RPSSH" is also given to citizens who, by the work which they have done, have made a direct contribution to the defense of the border.

Article 40

The Order and Medal "For the Preservation of the Social System"

The order and medal "For the Preservation of the Social System" is given to officers, non-commissioned officers and police personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for very good achievements in the organization and management of work and in the execution of the assigned duty, for untiring work in the duty assigned, for discovering and attacking hostile and malevolent elements for exemplary service in the preservation of the social system and for high political-combat and professional training.

Article 41

Other citizens who, by the work which they have done, have made a direct contribution to the preservation of the social system, are awarded the order and medal "For the Preservation of the Social System."

Article 42

The Order and Medal "For Civil Bravery"

The order and medal "For Civil Bravery" is given to citizens and worker collectives for rare courage, bravery and self-sacrifice demonstrated in cases of disasters (fires, floods, hostile action and other occasions) to save the lives of individuals or to save socialist property, endangering their own lives.

Article 43

All those who are awarded the medal "For Bravery in Work" will continue to hold it for the reasons stated in the pertinent certificate.

Article 44

The Order and Medal "For Good Service to the People"

The order and medal "For Good Service to the People" is given to worker collectives and workers in the fields of trade, health, the communal economy, transportation, posts and telecommunications, the savings banks and other workers who deal in services for receiving the people very well and for providing quick and exemplary service, for very good organization and management of work in the sector in which they work, for the thorough implementation of all hygiene and health regulations in their work areas, for great attention to the preservation and maintenance of socialist property and for the overfulfillment of the state plan in all technical-economic indicators.

Article 45

The "Medal for Art"

The "Medal for Art" is given to pupils of intermediate schools for general and vocational education, students of the university and of other higher educational institutions who finish school with brilliant results in their studies and with exemplary behavior and who have carried on outstanding activity in the youth organization and in other social works.

Article 46

The "Medal for Art" and the pertinent certificate are given in the name of the Presidium of the People's Assembly by the ministry which has the school under its jurisdiction.

Article 47

Distinctions and Citations

The distinctions "Outstanding Teacher," "Outstanding in Cultural Work," "Outstanding in Socialist Emulation," "For the Defense of the Social System and of Common Property," "Outstanding in Social Works" and "Outstanding in Military Exercises," and the citation "Outstanding Soldier" are given by ministries, by other central institutions and by social organizations.

Article 48

The ministries, other central institutions and social organizations have the right to create distinctions and other citations.

Common Provisions

Article 49

Citizens, institutions and collectives which are given honorary titles or decorations are given the medal of the honorary title, order or medal and also the appropriate certificate.

Article 50

When an order is divided into classes, decorations according to classes are given, taking into consideration the level of importance of the activity of the citizen, institution or collective.

Article 51

Citizens, institutions and collectives who are given a title, order or medal at one time can be given the same title, order, or medal again, for new merits in the same activity, in the same class or in a higher class, but not in a lower class. No more than three awards can be given in the same class.

Article 52

When a person who has been given the titles "Hero of the People" and "Hero of Socialist Labor" dies, the medal and certificate of the titles "Hero of the People" and "Hero of Socialist Labor" are kept by the members of his family and when he does not have any family or when they do not deserve such an honor, the certificate is placed in the district museum and the medal is returned to the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

Article 53

When the recipient of the title "Hero of the People" or "Hero of Socialist Labor" dies or when this title is given posthumously, the family members--the spouse and parents, regardless of age and capability for work, children and adopted children under the age of 15 years or up to 25 years of age when they are still in school or in courses or when they have become incapacitated before reaching this age--have the right to a family pension of more than 300 leks per month, regardless of the pension which might be given on the basis of the law on state social security in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania or other income.

The criteria specified in the law on state social security for the presentation of the request, the manner of payment, the suspension and loss of the pension also pertain in regard to the granting of this family pension.

Article 54

Those who have won the right to monthly compensation for the title "Teacher of the People" and "Merited Teacher" will continue to enjoy this right in the future.

Article 55

The organs which have the right to make nominations directly to the Presidium of the People's Assembly on the awarding of titles, honors and medals, procedures which must be followed for making proposals for the presentation,

keeping, holding or taking away of decorations and the inscription on the medals of titles and decorations are specified by decision of the Presidium of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 56

Honorary titles and decorations are given by the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the Socialist People's Republic of Albania. In circumstances specified by law, other organs can give honorary titles. The taking away of titles, orders and medals is done by the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania upon proposal of the organ which has the right to propose that they be given and also by decision of the court when the aims for which the title or decoration has been given have been violated.

Article 57

Foreign citizens are also awarded titles, orders and medals of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

Article 58

Decisions No 80 of 9 July 1945; Nos 129, 131 and 132 of 13 October 1945; No 161 of 19 January 1946; decrees No 175 of 12 September 1946; No 874 of 9 July 1949; No 1085 of 16 June 1950; No 1218 of 9 February 1951; No 1578 of 20 November 1952; No 1626 of 5 February 1953; No 1682 of 25 June 1953; No 1943 and No 1944 of 25 October 1954; No 1997 of 21 February 1955; No 2146 of 3 October 1955; Nos 2210 and 2211 of 6 February 1956; Nos 2238, 2241 and 2242 of 5 March 1956; No 2266 of 30 April 1956; No 2883 of 6 April 1959; No 2928 of 13 July 1959; No 3606 of 26 November 1962; Nos 3940-3955 of 18 January 1965; No 3960 of 18 January 1965; No 4177 of 4 November 1966; No 4783 of 24 December 1970; No 5631 of 30 September 1977 and Law No 3171 of 26 October 1960 are abrogated.

Article 59

This law goes into effect 15 days after its publication in GAZETA ZYRTARE.

Tirana, 12 February 1981

Law No 6133

Secretary of the Presidium of the
People's Assembly of the People's
Socialist Republic of Albania;

Tefti Muzini

Chairman of the Presidium of the
People's Assembly of the People's
Socialist Republic of Albania,

Bashfi Lleshi

CSO: 2100

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

BRIEFS

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE SUMMER CAMPS--The Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship League (SCSP) has organized 90 summer camps for the purpose of teaching Russian to members of the Pioneer Organization. The camps will open at the end of July and this year will include cultural programs as well as the camp classroom studies. The SCSP also conducts a Russian language course for adult workers at Novy Bor. [Text] [Prague MADA FRONTA in Czech 21 Jun 80 p 7]

CSO: 2400

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

DEPUTY CULTURE MINISTER DEFENDS POLICY TOWARD WRITERS

Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German No 21, 16 May 80 p 16

[Interview with GDR Deputy Minister of Culture Klaus Hoepcke by Marlies Menge: "Anyone Who Does Not Write Himself Off...On the Literary Life in the Other German State"]

[Text] [Question] At present, the two German states are striving to preserve what has been developed in the way of detente in the last 10 years. Can cultural policy help in this? Do you actually believe that through books, and through culture in general, a rapprochement can be achieved between nations?

[Answer] It is an old experience of human history that through books, and generally through culture, peoples and nations can be brought closer together.

As for relations between states of differing social orders, I see great opportunities and obligations in the cultural sphere as well, in addition to fundamental tasks such as disarmament and the development of fruitful economic cooperation which is advantageous for all sides concerned. These include an active effort along the lines of what was called "Basket J" at the Helsinki Conference. As concerns the exchange of literature, at the moment this basket is hanging cockeyed. The considerable weight of book licenses which the publishing houses of socialist countries are acquiring from non-socialist countries cannot be counterbalanced by the few licenses which these countries are obtaining from us.

[Question] Could not tensions which now exist be eliminated? Could not the GDR, for example, refrain from making its granting of licenses to West-German publishing houses dependent on which other authors are published there? Thus, for example, over 33 poems which are licensed by way of GDR publishing houses were not able to appear in an antifascist and antiwar anthology by the Kindler Publishing House, because Biermann and Kunze are represented in these volumes, and the publishing house was not prepared to submit for inspection poems of Bernd Jentzsch, Helga M. Nowak, and Christa Reinig to the Bureau for Copyrights.

[Answer] It is not true that GDR publishing houses make their granting of licenses to publishing houses of the FRG dependent on which other authors are published there. Not to the point of a generally followed practice. With regard to the anthology example which you mention, please do not forget how the author first named by you called for the destruction of the socialist authority structures in the GDR, in connection with which he included the shedding of blood. Nobody among us sets any great store by such neighborliness.

[Question] You frequently get angry at West German reviewers who criticize GDR books, although as you know the GDR reviewers often violently attack West German books, even when these have not appeared at all in the GDR. The main charge against West German reviewers: You claim that for them, whoever rails at the GDR is automatically considered to be a good writer, and whoever lives in some degree of harmony with the GDR is considered to be a bad writer. Is not the positive DIE ZEIT review of the latest book by Hermann Kant a counter-example to this thesis?

[Answer] Oh no, I am unlikely to get annoyed at reviewers in the FRG who criticize GDR books. That which I object to moves on a different plane. So that you can have an example in front of you, I should like to ask you to recall how the coverage by the electronic media of the FRG which reaches most viewers had been applied to the 1980 Leipzig Book Fair. As you perhaps know, I am a journalist by profession. Moreover, for some years I gave lectures on journalism at Leipzig's Karl-Marx University. You can believe me: To any student who for the purposes of creating a paradigm of bourgeois-capitalist prejudice had jotted down as merely a possibility what in reality flickered in sound and picture across the screens operated by the West on 10 March 1980--to him I would have given a straight "F" for his simplistic, primitive ideas about the ideological opponent. How precipitate! Because although we are a great deal inured to this, we experienced once again how things happened far more simply than our most simplistic notion could depict them. Instead of speaking about new books and developments among writers in the GDR, they had set up behind the newscaster the message "GDR writers want to leave the country." And the whole telecast was tailored to this mendacious assertion.

One more thing about your first question: Thus the journalists as well can do something to preserve detente. For those FRG journalists who are active in the politico-cultural sphere, this may well involve abandoning their attempts to dispossess the GDR in the literary realm--in other words: To disavow in its individuality that literature proper to socialist relations which has developed here, as was done by a certain newspaper published on the Main, in its editorial of 12 July 1979.

Now, you would like to call upon the review appearing in your newspaper on Hermann Kant's novel "Der Aufenthalt" [The Sojourn] as a positive

counterexample to the charge that in your country, criticism often has assumed an unreasonable attitude toward the works of GDR writers. On that I make two observations:

1. The subject of the new book by Hermann Kant is a grappling with the fascist past from the standpoint of socialist positions. In this respect, it is already worthy of attention that the book was not disparaged whole-hog in DIE ZEIT. At first glance it seems as if the reviewer is going to do justice to the literary achievement produced by the author. But he cannot or does not want to delve into the true message of Hermann Kant, perhaps because of a weakness of memory or a withdrawal from reality--I do not know, but I see that a certain anxiety on the part of the reviewer betrays itself in this review.

2. But now, the point at which reviewers of GDR books in organs of the FRG repeatedly fail lies where a person fashions a firsthand socialist reality from the standpoint of socialist positions.

In order to examine the procedures employed by you in this respect, please just consider for once--for example--Hans Weber's latest published novel "Einzug ins Paradies" [Moving Into Paradise]. In this, an account is given about the first 7 days of life of five families after moving into a block of new apartments. Finally they have their long-desired new homes. And what happens now? We become acquainted with a host of conflicts, attitudes, and developments in which human contacts are formed. The person as the creator of himself--to my mind, Weber's novel is a complex contribution to this topic. Can you also see that in this way? It would perhaps also prove interesting to compare ratings of Fritz Rudolf Fries' 16 prose pieces, which are being published under the title "Alle meine Hotel Leben" [All my Hotel Lives]. For me, reading this book combined an enjoyable reading experience with pleasure in the contrast between every national narrow-mindedness and the open-mindedness of the author to the peculiarities of other peoples. One more remark on the television affair just now discussed: I did not see the telecast until later. On the evening of this transmission, I had better things to do. I took part in a reading to which had come a writer who had originally resided in your country but had left it quite some time ago and for a number of years has been living outside the FRG at the Gohlis chateau of Leipzig: Reinhard Lettau.

[Question] Which West-German authors will be published in the GDR in 1980/81? According to what principles do West-German books get licenses? Who determines the number of copies?

[Answer] In 1980/81, there will be published in the GDR, among others, titles by Boell, Degenhardt, Fels, Frick, von der Gruen, Hildesheimer, Hochhuth, Kipphardt, Kluge, Kroetz, Kusenberg, Kuehn, S. Lenz, Meckel, Ossowski, Reding, Th. Valentin, and Wohmann. Moreover, in this period

our publishing houses are also bringing out titles of now deceased authors such as Andersch, Andres, Born, Celan, Eich, J. B. Fuchs, L. Frank, Erich Kaestner, W. Lehmann, and Remarque. You can infer our principles from the names given. Without exception, it is a question of humanists. The selection of the titles and the determination of the numbers of copies is done by the publishing houses.

[Question] You said at the last Leipzig book fair that you would have "nothing in common with an unsound accommodation which stands in the way of the revolutionary will for change," but that "sheer non-accommodation" does not work either. Where are the boundaries for a writer? Is not an engaged writer more dear to you than one who writes as if he believes that there is certain to be a printing of his work in the GDR?

[Answer] The alternative which you have provided in your question does not tally with the facts. Because in reality what happens with printing in the GDR is otherwise: The more committed to socialism a person is in his writing, the more certain can he be that his book gets published and has an auspicious--that is, a lively, active, controversial--response. We regard socialist positions above all from the point of view that they must be continuously worked on--especially with regard to developmental problems. That can happen only in terms of a collective effort. In a dialectical understanding, historical progress is always more than a linear advance; in particular, we comprehend and fashion further progress in the developed socialist society in terms of a process--as Erich Honecker said--of far-reaching changes. In literature, what we regard as important are works which view reality soberly and accurately, which help in a deeper comprehension of it, and which at the same time cause us to feel passionate about supporting further socialist development. Because of this attitude, many of us think highly of Dieter Noll's novel "Kippenberg." But also meeting with a good response are rejoinders to this, such as Guenter de Bruyn gives with his tale "Maerkische Forschungen" [Investigations of the Mark Brandenburg], in which the inner life is laid bare of a professor named Menzel, who subordinates the search for truth to his mania for personal fame. Or consider Guenter Goerlich's "Eine Anzeige in der Zeitung" [An Ad in the Newspaper]. This pleading for openness and truthfulness in our relations to one another, which emerges more and more from the conflicts surrounding the tragic death of a young man, has an effect going beyond the school setting in which the action is placed. Furthermore, I could refer you also to Erik Neutsch's novella "Zwei leere Stuehle" [Two Empty Chairs], a prose work of almost woodcut-sharp contours, in which on the occasion of a reunion meeting the question arises of whether we do not judge each other often on the basis of criteria which are too superficial. In all these books and in many others--among them Ulrich Plenzdorf's "Legende vom Glueck ohne Ende" [Legend of Never-ending Felicity], a novel in which there is much pondering even

expressible verbs over accommodation and non-accommodation--you will find corroborated from continually new points of view what you have quoted: That we--politicians as well as persons in the literary scene in the GDR--have nothing in common with an unsound accommodation which stands in the way of the revolutionary will for change, and at the same time we know that sheer non-accommodation likewise leads to nothing.

[Question] Who decides which books are published in the GDR? Do you decide this?

[Answer] The decision on which books are published in the GDR is made by the authors who write them, the publishers in whose firms the manuscripts are read and by whom the books are brought out, the Ministry of Culture, which coordinates the publishing plans and acts in harmony with the Presidium of the Writers' Union, as well as the large community of readers, booksellers, librarians, and literary critics and scholars who in public discourse as well as in a number of honorary bodies exert an influence on the publishing houses and on the cultural ministry with respect to what is published in what manner in terms of first and later editions.

[Question] Why has the GDR simply let go so many of its good writers? Why has it not made more of an effort to keep them?

[Answer] The many good writers of the GDR live and work as much as ever in the GDR. May I name a few--in addition to the names which I had the pleasure of giving in the answers to other questions? Anna Seghers, Ruth Werner, Hedda Zimmer, Ruth Kraft, Margarete Neumann, Hildegard-Maria Rauchfuss, Inge von Wangenheim, Rosemarie Schuder, Eva Strittmatter, Christa Wolf, Ingrid Mergner, Helga Schmetz, Gerti Tetzner, Christa Mueller, Helga Schubert, Christine Wolter, Christa Kozik, Waltraud Lewin, Angela Stachowa, Monika Helmecke, Brigitte Martin, and Gisela Simon. And by their side, men such as Peter Abraham, Erich Arendt, Helmut Kaiser, Horst Bastian, Uwe Berger, Horst Beseler, Volker Braun, Juri Brezan, Hans Cibulka, Guenther Deicke, Peter Edel, Adolf Endler, John Erpenbeck, Franz Fuchmann, Rolf Floss, Walter Gorrish, Otto Gotsche, Peter Hacks, Claus Hamel, Harald Hauser, Werner Heiduczek, Stephan Hermlin, Stefan Heym, Gerhard Holtz-Baumert, Karl-Heinz Jakobs, Wolfgang Joos, Heinz Kamnitzer, Walter Kaufmann, Henryk Kiss, Rainer Kordt, Rainer Kirsch, Wolf Kirsten, Erich Kuehler, Wolfgang Kohlhaase, Jan Koplowitz, Karl Mickel, Willi Meinck, Heiner Mueller, Karl Mundstock, Herbert Nachbar, Joachim Nowotny, Herbert Otto, Eberhard Panitz, Siegfried Pitschmann, Hans Pfeiffer, Benno Pludra, Helmut Preussner, Jurgen Rennert, three Richters (Egon, Goetz K., and Helmut), Guenter Ruecker, Helmut Sakowski, Uwe Saeger, Bernhard Seegeer, Max Walter Schulz, Bernd Schirmer, Martin Stade, Rudi Strahl, Erwin Strittmatter, Barry Trewer, Alfred Wellm, Walter Werner, Paul Wiens, Benitz Wogatzki, and Joachim Wollgemuth. As you can see, I have also

mentioned authors who have been excluded from the union because they had violated its by-laws. Nevertheless, they are at liberty to pursue their literary work further.

This long enumeration may strike many people as being tedious--inelegant, so to speak. But everything has its price. When in FRG media, almost always only nine or ten authors from the GDR are mentioned, whereas in truth more writers get a chance to write here than in geographically neighboring states which have a much larger population, I must be permitted to signal as existent by citing their names at least a few out of the over 700 members of the GDR Writers' Union.

Now as for the others, the few who have gone: Of these, several have proved likewise to be good writers, but that is not true of all of them. Yet, be that as it may--even from these few good ones the assertion could scarcely be supported that anyone had been "simply let go" by us.

[Question] Are writers and artists who have gone to the West written off for the GDR, or is their work further watched?

[Answer] Whoever does not write himself off by distancing himself in his writing more and more from socialism arouses interest even now.

[Question] Is a writer such as, for example, Guenter Kunert still a GDR writer to you, even though he is living for the moment in the West? If you were to reply to the somewhat bitter way that he declared his temporary parting from the GDR in DIE ZEIT--what would you say to him?

[Answer] What answer would I give to the GDR writer Guenter Kunert, what would I say to him? I have, in fact, answered him. I would like to leave what I wrote confidential with the recipient of my lines.

[Question] In Leipzig, you said that time will heal many wounds with respect to authors to which "we are attached for the time being above all by friction, and that from such frictions, perhaps a new solidarity will grow later on." Would you please explain this more thoroughly?

[Answer] I already explained that rather thoroughly when I spoke of these frictions (the talk was not about wounds). I said that "socialist positions, once they are taken up, are not so quickly shaken off." Again and again, I said, the arguments of life are so powerful that one returns to them. In addition, I direct your esteemed attention to a remark by Gerhard Zwerenz, who wrote in issue No 1/1980 of KONKRET: "I have lived for 22 years now in this country"--the FRG is meant. "I can only assure anyone who arrives here from the other side: If a person has been a true socialist, he can never get acclimatized here."

This man is not necessarily speaking from his own experience. To the best of my recollection, he was not active as a "true socialist" either

Before his departure from the GDR 22 years ago or afterwards in the FRG. But the observation is quite apt. Many people will perhaps apply it to me as a test: Can he--coming from here--get acclimatized there?

[Question] You have also said that for those who have gone away, time will be their teacher. Do you believe, then, that some of them will return? What aid would the GDR give them? For example, could you envisage that the GDR might print the pieces and poems of Thomas Bracht which he has written in the FRG?

[Answer] Whether anyone returns depends mainly on how he gets along in the world from now on. If in this connection one of these people writes pieces and poems which arouse interest in the GDR, then if he searches he will find a publisher.

[Question] Do you see fundamental differences between culture in the West and that in the GDR? If so, what are these differences? And what are the things in common, which after all should emerge in fact from our centuries-old history?

[Answer] Certainly I see fundamental differences. Who does not see them? But let us just begin with the things in common. I regard as a common feature, for example, "between culture in the West and that in the GDR" (as well as in Poland, in the USSR, and so forth) the mutual responsibility we have to provide for conditions in international life which make it possible to preserve the treasures of the Paris Louvre, the Dresden Zwinger Palace, and the Leningrad Hermitage, to enjoy the strains of Beethoven's music, to get inspired by the boldness of thought of Voltaire, Marx, and Lenin, to plunge into the destinies of the heroes of the novels by Dostoyevski, Tolstoy, and Sholokhov, Balzac, Zola, and Aragon, Theodor Fontane, Thomas Mann, and Anna Segher, to lend an eye and ear to the stage figures of Shakespeare, Moliere, Goethe, Ibsen, and Brecht, and to reflect on verses by Mickiewicz, Petsoff, or Celan. This requires peace between peoples and nations, and this promotes such a peace. It is a great mutual responsibility. It encompasses the relationship which we in the GDR and which you in the FRG have as heirs of the German spiritual life of earlier centuries and decades.

Often we are represented in the FRG--even by official figures--as if we were sitting, pictorially speaking, like a hawk on this heritage, not letting anyone else near. In reality, we are glad about every minute which a citizen of a Western country devotes to the works of the humanist legacy. Nevertheless it would be unreal to shut our eyes to the fact that different classes inherit differently. Just compare how those in Düsseldorf and those in the GDR treat Heinrich Heine. Whereby in the GDR a multitude of Heine monuments has come into being, schools, streets, and prizes bear his name, and his work has been

printed a million times over, to my knowledge Duesseldorf is the sole place in the FRG where there is a Heine monument, erected shamefacedly after years of discussion, and--what an insult to Heine--made by a man named Arno Breker! Or think of the twofold scandal which was caused by certain circles among you around Carl von Ossietzky: A university is forbidden to bear his name. But an anticommunist prize is improperly dressed up with his name.

I see further differences when I think of the cultural activities of brigades in our enterprises and seek for something comparable with you. I know about the great work which is being performed by many organized workers in this regard even in your country; certain elements are developing--to speak according to Lenin--of a democratic and socialist culture, which correspond to the living conditions of the working person.

[Question] What are your favorite books?

[Answer] Here I will mention to you first and foremost a work of journalism: Heinrich Heine's "Zur Geschichte der Religion und Philosophie in Deutschland" [On the History of Religion and Philosophy in Germany]. That was love "at first sight." This love arose long before I concerned myself with literary policy in the narrower sense. Meanwhile, the fact that this love has survived for decades is probably also due to my present activity.

Now, in belles-lettres there is a multitude of books which mean much to me. Just now I mentioned some greats of world literature for whose works my love is also great. Besides these, there are other books which have become especially dear to me on account of singular reading experiences. Thus, Heinrich Mann's novel about the youth and maturing of Henri Quatre. Furthermore, the GDR contemporary novel bequeathed by Brigitte Reimann, "Franziska Linkerhand," Boris Wassiljew's "Im Morgenrauen ist es noch still" [At Dawn All Is Yet Quiet], and Jerzy Putrament's "Boldyn" ("The General" in German translation). Of those engaged with literature in the FRG, authors such as Martin Walser and Max von der Gruen have a strong appeal for me. At one time, for example, I occupied myself rather intensively with "Irrlicht und Feuer" [Will-o-the-wisp and Fire], which so far has appeared in four editions with us. When exactly did the last edition of this work appear in the FRG?

If it is permitted to have a particular love for individual poems in addition to whole books, then I will mention Goethe's "Prometheus" and Volker Braun's "Wir und nicht sie" [We and Not They].

EMPTY SHELVES, SYMPATHY FOR OLYMPIC BOYCOTT REPORTED

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 12 Jun 80 p 10

[Report by Richard Becker, datelined Leipzig, in June: "'Things Have Never Been This Bad for Us'--Conversations, and the Unspoken, in the GDR"]

[Text] There seems to be an undertone of fear. "Things have never been as bad as right now. It is a unique disaster." While the fear that there will be a "bang" soon has a depressing effect on people like us, we do not react to it as the kind of call for aid which it may be meant to be. What is the meaning for us of reports that the shelves in the shops are empty (except, of course, in the "Exquisite" stores), that (as a housewife in Leipzig complains) there is not a scrap of beef to be had, that even in the Intershops, the foreign-currency hoards, one cannot get a single bottle of Crimean champagne? A person who ought to know says: "We are bleeding for the Olympic Games. What we lack can be found in Moscow." The packages from the West? "They are more important than ever right now." And what is meant here is not only the value of nonmaterial support: if one is in the fortunate position of being able to exchange goods, one does so with a sense of purpose--honey for what one wants, or Eastern marks for Western marks.

The lack of goods is garnished with declarations of friendship for the Soviet Union. In the "Youth Discussion Column" of LEIPZIGER VOLKSZEITUNG young people are asked: "Whom do you support when the USSR and the FRG oppose each other in a soccer game?" Someone, breaking ideological ranks, wanting to separate politics and sports, voiced the opinion that one should not look at things this way. "The rest," it was stated in the paper, "realized that there must not and cannot be any support for a country boycotting the Olympic Games for reactionary reasons, because, whether it wants to or not, a team represents a state, a social system. For us, therefore, there would be no doubt about whom to support." Boos for the soccer pros because the amateurs are not going to Moscow? When sports and politics meet as they are doing right now, public opinion is leveled rigorously. Officially, mind you.

Meanwhile, in the street in the GDR one meets everywhere with understanding for the Olympic boycott, for the GDR citizens are only too familiar with the sensation of being wrapped up in a joint action bloc. But again and again

one hears the remark: "What kind of Olympic Games are these without the top sportsmen, particularly yours?" Besides, the official question "Whom do you support?" is not listened to with undivided attention by one who has witnessed the enthusiasm of GDR citizens who had made a special trip to Bucharest or Brno to watch soccer games by West German teams, or who recently experienced the enthusiasm at a European youth tournament in the GDR itself in support of young sportsmen from the Federal Republic. While the mutual distance has been extended artificially in political respects, the support is growing proportionately to this artificially extended distance. It goes without saying (though the people are well informed) that officially there is no mention on the other side of the occupation of Afghanistan as the reason for the boycott movement.

A joke is making the rounds in Leipzig and elsewhere. A saleswoman is asked whether the store is moving or vacating. She says, "No, why do you ask?" The reply: "Because the shelves are so empty." No, they are not vacating; they are being vacated "according to plan" in the proverbial meaning of the term. "To support the Soviet Union also means to unconditionally support Moscow 1980," states LEIPZIGER VOLKSZEITUNG. The newspaper carries the picture of girls with friendly smiles in Afghanistan, the first of their country to enlist heart and soul in parachute jumping. There are self-conscious reports about the "limited Soviet force in the territory" dispatched at the express request of the Afghan government. "Do you really think they would withdraw even a single soldier if there was a chance of somehow avoiding the Olympic boycott? Not on your life." This opinion is voiced even among official (sports) circles. Not out loud but unequivocally.

There is no equivocation either in the bars of the Interhotel, where the visitor learns to stand in line before he can get in. GDR citizens generally wait longer than "others"--they are used to it. The practice of definitely wearing a jacket or at least a tie has not yet stopped either. This gives the discotheques a certain elegant touch which somehow creates an awkward atmosphere.

"I don't know who is watching me, but there definitely is someone." One is under surveillance, as they say so nicely. The "Stasi" (the man from the State Security Service) is sipping his (presumably Hungarian) whisky and chewing on his surveillance job. Whis one is it? To people like us it really does not make any difference. Only one's neighbor "Within 3 days, at the latest, must fill out a questionnaire about what Western citizen I conversed with where and when." He accepts this surveillance and, with it, the popular game of "What would happen if?" He says: "Really only the criminal offenders would go across to your side. Whoever has any self-respect would stay here." There is something to this--criminals as well. Was it my neighbor's first language or his second, the official or his own view? Difficult to say. The lines get blurred as soon as one thinks that someone nearby is listening. What is needed then is to hear the unspoken.

8790

CSO: 2300

VARNAI VIEWS ANTI-U.S. ATTITUDES IN WESTERN EUROPE

Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 8 Jun 80 p 3

[Article by Ferenc Varnai, vice chairman, National Committee for European Security and Cooperation (CSCE): "Worries in Western Europe"]

[Text] "Paris follows its own counsel: without having consulted with Washington it negotiates with the Soviets. London is unwilling to join the economic sanctions against Iran. Several countries completely ignore Carter's initiative to boycott the Moscow olympic games. It would be a mistake to think that this is simply due to some kind of inadvertent misunderstanding. The naked reality is that the allies, whether they are right or not, rightfully or without foundations, simply do not believe in Jimmy Carter's politics."

...is as how the article published in the 25 May issue of the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE by the American publicist James Reston analyzes the differences of opinion which have developed among the Western allies. But we could also quote more robust wordings from the capitalist world press published outside the United States. Articles have been published there recently under the titles "Injured Alliance" (FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE), "Western Europe must make it clear that its ideology differs from that of the United States" (THE GUARDIAN), "The world is not the inheritance of the United States" (MAYNICH SHIMBUN), just to pick a few from among the many.

Couve de Murville's Views

Disenchantment and annoyance with the American leadership practically pours from the words of Western Europe's influential politicians because the Americans conduct their politics stubbornly and unpredictable, without consulting with them and to their disadvantage in questions which fundamentally influence their fates, and because the Americans are delaying the ratification of SALT II and are jeopardizing every achievement of detente. "It is fortunate that it was unsuccessful"--is their comment also on Carter's commando action against Iran.

But we are speaking not only about rumblings audible only in tight circles. We quote Couve de Murville, French diplomacy's tested and famous personality

and De Gaulle's one-time foreign minister, who for years also occupied the post of prime minister of France, and who at the present time is the chairman of the French national assembly's foreign policy committee. Recently at a press conference Couve de Murville opposed the American reasoning that the present sharpening of the international situation has developed because of a suddenly developed advantage of the Soviet medium-range rockets or because of the Soviet aid provided to Afghanistan. "The existence of the Soviet SS-20's was made public only a year ago," he said, "but everyone, including myself, knew that these were positioned two or three years ago. It is a secret of history why they were discovered only in early 1979. The fact that a situation of conflict has developed," he added, "did not occur because of Afghanistan at all, but because of the nuclear arming of Western Europe... The placing of Pershing rockets in Western Europe is actually an aggression against them (he speaks of the Soviet Union and its allies. Editor), because these rockets can reach the Soviet Union's territory and mainly the nuclear strategic bases aimed at the United States, without the similar-type rockets of the Soviets being able to reach the American soil. This is what is being forgotten today, and this can place into doubt the foundations of Russian-American peace based on the balance of power."

Disapproving Grumbings

American secretary of state Muskie's disapproving grumbling because the French premier Giscard d'Estaing negotiated with Leonid Brezhnev without having first consulted with the American government, illustrated particularly well that the links among the western powers have become more tense. It is well known how unequivocally the French rejected the lecture intruding on their independence! (French ex-minister of interior Poniatowski even hurled this at them: "The problem is that the United States has the military strength while Europe has the statesmen.") This was the Italian LA STAMPA's comment on what had happened: "After all the French premier has done nothing more than what several other allies had also thought about doing."

The Common Market's member nations are also beginning to have enough of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement, created under U.S. patronage, which is leading nowhere. The planned Western European position would support the Palestinian right of self-determination and would condemn Israel's settlement policies on the occupied areas. However, the American president believes only in solutions based on the Camp David accord, and threatens a veto if his allies present a proposal contrary to it to the Security Council. This is how LES ECHOS, considered to be the mouthpiece of French capitalism, evaluates this: "Since the end of World War II this is the second occasion the United States has issued such a severe warning to Western Europe in connection with the Near East, which Washington considers to be its own hunting grounds. The first one was on the occasion of the French-British military expedition to Suez in 1956. The matter is serious because it can shake the United Nations with a veto which would divide the West."

And as far as the relationship between the United States and the FRG is concerned, recently we read the following lines in FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE: "Recently the comment slipped from the White House advisor for with alliance and security issues that the confidence of the political elites of the two countries in each other has become undermined." And this was in DIE ZEIT: "The methods of the Carter guard mean that one must hit first and think later, act first and then demand solidarity--which means subordination; and this causes annoyance in Bonn and not only in Bonn. Today America's European allies have to defend their own interests which do not necessarily coincide with the interests of the United States."

Is It Moscow's Hand?

As can be seen, the alliance's harmony has been disrupted, and greater or lesser rifts have developed between the viewpoints of the United States and most Western European governments. In addition, this is so not in questions of secondary importance but in deciding what should be the basic international strategy of the capitalist world: continuation of detente; maintenance of the military equilibrium; or return to the cold war, to embargos and boycotts applied against the socialist countries, to the repetition of power politics.

No, it would not be correct by any means to exaggerate what is taking place in Western Europe today, and to make it look as some kind of anti-American landslide. The leaders of capitalist countries all wish to preserve the capitalist social system, indeed they would like to increase its influence. But as far as the how-to of the solution leading to these goals is concerned, the distance between the viewpoints of capitalist Europe and the United States is increasing. And this time the methods and means are not of secondary importance. That is, it is not at all immaterial for humanity whether someone wants to preserve, or less desirably to expand the positions of the capitalist society by achieving a superiority of strength; that is, by military means, or by accepting the balance of power, with the aid of political and economic tools, within the framework of peaceful coexistence.

Seeing the loosening of the alliance's ties the Brzezinski-brand politicians again pulled out the old recipe. They are prompting articles according to which "Moscow is trying to drive a wedge between Washington and its Western European allies." But the authors of articles who cannot be satisfied with such propaganda explanations have a quite different opinion: "The allies simply do not agree with Carter on that the measures of economic reprisal against the Soviet Union or boycotting the Moscow olympic games would change the Soviet Union's policies concerning Afghanistan," we read in Reston's article already quoted above.

And this disillusionment came about not because of "Moscow's hand" but because the Western European countries are much more interested in preserving and even expanding detente than is the United States. And not only because they know much better than America does, from their own experience, what

burdens and tragedies war brings, but because for the United States, Europe in the final analysis is only an overseas bridgehead of a possible conflict (which they hope would be a "localized" one). But for their Western European allies, however, such a conflict is neither a "localized" matter nor a bridgehead but a question of life and death, the question of their physical existence.

Shaken Confidence

In addition, Western Europe can now better defend its own strategic interests than ever before. What makes this possible is that even though militarily the United States continues to be the strongest power of the capitalist world, Western Europe's economic weight has significantly increased. Thirty years ago the U.S. share of the industrial production of the developed capitalist countries was about 50 percent, and even in 1960 it well exceeded 40 percent. By now this ratio is barely over 35 percent. Western Europe's share now reaches 32 percent! The situation is similar also in the areas of accumulation of capital, and even of productivity. Among other things, the dollar's shaken-up role also well illustrates the weakening of the U.S. role in world economy. Thus one must not be surprised that Britain's THE GUARDIAN came to this conclusion: "Western Europe is now capable of taking an independent stand even if it is not yet strong enough to act independently."

Of course we are still far from the effort of the Western European countries to achieve independence, from their desire to free themselves from their American links being consistent or unanimous. What is involved here is not that these governments would turn against NATO or against the American political hegemony, just as their carefully approaching the socialist countries also does not mean that they are giving up their basically anti-communist stance. But they are recognizing more and more that maintaining the constant tension also gives the United States opportunity to force on them its policies, which have not been thought through, which often do not take the realities into consideration, and at times are dictated by the election campaigns; and by doing this it is sweeping them into increased subordination and incalculable risks.

All the things we have talked about are not completely unusual phenomena in Western Europe. In the years after World War II we have more than once seen lack of commitment and grumbling also among those governments in view of manifestations of the extremes of the American politics. Older people may still remember how quickly even the leadership of the Western Europe slowly rising out of the destruction, still stunned and struck way down, came to realize the weaknesses of the political culture of the Americans, how much the braggartly flouting of their affluence bothered them. However, the serious wavering of confidence placed in the American politics ripened only much later, in the latter stages of the Vietnam war. But this time even more than that is involved. The United States is being criticized in areas where in the past the omnipotence of the stronger, mightier partner used to be acknowledged practically without a hiss. The American government's change of direction towards cold war is being received bristlingly and with growing antipathy by the governments of more and more Western European countries.

KISZ SECRETARY'S ROLE REPRESENTING YOUTH INTERESTS DEFINED

Budapest IFJU KOMMUNISTA in Hungarian No 5, 1980 pp 17-18

[Article by Istvan Ruzsinakzy: "The Secretary and Interest Protection"]

[Text] When we speak of KISZ interest-protection activity we always see it as accompanying representational work. It is important to emphasize this because the two concepts are two parts of the same activity. The essence of interest representation is that KISZ represents all the youth at state, social and other organizations. It undertakes initiatives, makes proposals, and gives opinions on questions affecting youth, and it has the right of decision, concurrence, and initiative. It engages in interest protection if somewhere and somehow the rights of the youth are violated. The elected bodies of KISZ or the KISZ secretary are called on to exercise interest representational and interest-protection rights in the case of the youth. And since the secretary of the basic KISZ organization has the most immediate ties with the KISZ memberships, he has extremely important and responsible tasks in this area of work.

It is well known that in questions affecting youth the right of decision, concurrence, the giving of opinions, and supervision rest in the case of the basic organization with the membership assembly or the leadership, and the explanation of the position that is developed is entrusted to the secretary. The membership is informed of opinions and decisions at the membership assembly.

Generally speaking, the workers in the KISZ organizations need interest-protection work in the following interest representation areas:

1. career beginning, adjustment, working conditions, and material and moral recognition;
2. the social situation and living circumstances of the youth;
3. youth training, continuation training, and leadership selection;
4. education, entertainment, tourism, and mass sports.

The KISZ organizations have the right to urge the establishment of conditions necessary for the above. But of course in their interest-representational work, the KISZ organizations have not only rights but also obligations. The moral justification for the exercise of rights--including protection rights--exists only if the obligations are met.

The secretary may carry out interest-protection activity orally or in writing; in choosing the means, a role is played by the magnitude of the weakness that has been experienced and the kind of relations he has with the enterprise managers (plant managers). A good example of this is the following: a young specialist who had recently finished high school and started his career turned to the KISZ secretary for help because he was being required to perform tasks inappropriate to his training and skills. He said that if they did not change his situation he would leave the enterprise. Together with the personnel manager of the department, the KISZ secretary investigated the young specialist's work area and it became evident that this was appropriate to his training but the manager of the immediate workshop had not given him tasks appropriate thereto. Following a conversation with the secretary, the workshop manager still failed to entrust the young man with appropriate work; thereupon the secretary again turned to the manager of the personnel department, this time in writing, asking him to transfer the young man to another department. The request was granted and the affair was settled, and the secretary was notified of the action in writing. Unfortunately, the report does not indicate whether the arbitrary economic manager was called to account or not.

Most cases, however, are not this simple. The solution takes longer to find than in the cited instance. But in every situation the rule is valid that interest-protection affairs must be attended to without delay in every problematic case. The secretary must always find time to do this!

Let us look at another example.

In a large enterprise with a number of work sites, the basic organizations operated by departments. There were frequent changes of secretaries at one of the sites. Exercising one of its interest-protection rights, the guiding (enterprise) KISZ committee began to investigate the causes for the changes. It was then light was shed on the fact that frequently the youth leaders themselves did not know their rights and obligations. In fact, it happened that a department head transferred the KISZ secretary--with his knowledge--to another work shop from where he was unable to direct the basic organization. The manager had not asked anyone's opinion about the propriety of the transfer, but the KISZ secretary himself failed to inform the guiding committee of the expected change. And since the department manager did not carry out the obligation defined in the enterprise undertaking plan of the youth law (the requesting of the guiding KISZ organization's opinion in a matter affecting an elected KISZ leader), the guiding KISZ committee called the attention of the department head and the managing director to this in writing. The youth manager was not demoted or called to responsibility only because the secretary meanwhile left the plant. The managing director issued the department head a warning.

The above-described case is instructive because it exemplifies what a great error it is if a youth leader does not know what protection he is entitled to--something which it is the task of the committee to assure--and at the same time his obligations.

In exercising interest-protection activity the secretary must not and does not remain alone. In handling affairs that exceed his power, he may ask for help from the guiding KISZ committee, from the trade union and the basic party committee. He must cooperate with these organizations particularly in tasks relating to the political and trade training of young people and in preparing them to become leaders. He must recommend young people suitable for managerial work to the attention of these organizations and the economic managers.

The decisive factor in the interest-protection activity of the basic organizations is the person of the KISZ secretary, his characteristic endowments, and his ability to establish relationships. He cannot be compromising, but at the same time he must have flexibility. It is not proper if he attributes great importance to every minor matter or if he does not hold his ground in solving real problems. Good relations afford help in avoiding these errors. A lack of these relations caused problems, for example, at a workers hostel. The young men living there asked that facilities be set up for them to play ping-pong in their free time. What is needed for this? A table and appropriate premises. At the request of the KISZ committee, the enterprise purchased the table, and thus only the problem of the premises remained, which should have been solved by the caretaker. However, he was not inclined to do a thing. Bad relations existed between himself and the KISZ secretary, and he felt the moment had arrived to make his power felt. At length, the enterprise leadership had to intervene on behalf of the youths. Because of the conflict between the two men, it took a year to solve an affair which should have been settled in 5 minutes!

The above examples show that the success of interest-protection work also depends on the personal endowments of the secretary. This is also shown by the fact that if, for example, a basic organizational secretary manages democratically and knows the tasks of the enterprise and the youth, he is then able to carry out his interest-representational work in such a way that there will be no need for interest protection. What follows from all this? He should not be a secretary who lacks diplomatic finesse, who is excessively rigid, bureaucratic or self-seeking because he will be in constant and unnecessary conflict with everyone. Such a person will be unable to protect or represent the interests of the young people because he himself, as a matter of fact, is working against these interests. If, however, the words of the secretary are guided by good intention, if he always speaks in the interest of the goals of the collective, his endeavors will be valued everywhere by everyone, and this in itself is halfway to success. And then he has only to struggle for the other half.

MAKEUP, FUNCTIONS OF KISZ GROUPS EXPLAINED

Budapest IFJU KOMMUNISTA in Hungarian No 5, 1980 pp 19-21

[Article by Gabor Molnar: "KISZ Groups in Basic Organizations, Together and Separately"]

[Text] There are today no longer a very great number of KISZ basic organizations in the country, although in some places—for example, in the army--decentralization and the establishment of a greater number of smaller basic organizations is impossible. Therefore, it is worthwhile to investigate what a KISZ group is, what are its tasks, what it should deal with, and how it should work.

At the most, 8-16 young people belong in a KISZ group. This is about how many there are in a platoon in the army, and in a learning group or class in our schools. The purpose of establishing the groups is to develop collectives in which the "we" consciousness exists and as group consciousness becomes a unifying force.

The solution is the most fortunate when the KISZ groups are organized on the basis of interest circles or mutually friendly attachments, because in this way the groups form a collective within a very short time. The establishment of the groups is the right of the basic organizations. But at the time of their organization it must be remembered that the leadership can review the work of three or four groups, and therefore it is not proper to divide the basic organization into more parts. But it must also be borne in mind that consultations about a decision should be held with the KISZ committee and the party organization, for the latter must take into account the existence of the groups in its guidance work, giving of help, and supervision.

Regarding the Tasks

Besides carrying out the action programs, the groups may organize independent actions even for the entire basic organization. Thus the immediate relationship of the KISZ group with the leadership of the basic organization is of key importance.

What are the tasks which the KISZ groups must solve?

They may initiate and implement social programs. One of their important tasks is to build KISZ, to endeavor to win over those in their environment who are outside of KISZ, to bring them into work through assignments, and to prepare them for KISZ membership. They may recommend acceptance of new members into the party. By discussing disciplinary cases before the collective, they can do a great deal on behalf of moral education and the formation of consciousness. Therefore the groups are good arenas for direct education. It is in this way that they help to realize and solve our political and movement goals.

The most important characteristic of group work is practicality and immediacy. The young people work out the various goals, ideas and plans in this more narrow collective, and thus the problems appear in practice and in daily life. It immediately becomes evident, therefore, how realistic the ideas are and to what extent they meet local characteristics.

Democratism is generally well developed in the groups. The small number of persons and the practicality of the subjects that are to be worked out make it possible for everyone to express an opinion. In analyzing the different points of view and subjects, we can stimulate every young person into discussion. But a task arises at this time: it should be the development of a positive seed that the group will not become a clique but will be forward-pointing and task-determining.

The Group Leader

The group leader is the key man in group life. As the elected KISZ leader, he mediates between the leadership of the basic organization and the KISZ group. He has a permanent invitation to attend leadership meetings and represents the interests of the group. A great deal depends on him, for as a leader he influences the views of the group leadership with his knowledge, opinions and undertakings.

He must know the members of the group well, and it is even better if he has direct, friendly relations with them. He knows how to distribute tasks and on the basis of his theoretical knowledge give procedural help for their execution.

Between Membership Meetings

The agenda and content of the meeting is a very important problem for the independent existence of the KISZ groups. The preparation and conduct of meetings is determined by the rights, obligations and possibilities of the group. It is possible on various occasions between meetings to call the group together. This may be initiated by the leadership of the basic organization but also by the group itself. The relatively unbound form of the group meetings gives an opportunity for the members to discuss concisely and

incisively such tasks, questions and problems as affect the membership. It is not necessary to keep minutes of these meetings, only incidental notes which help keep the task on the agenda.

It is always advisable to invite some member of the leadership of the basic organization to the meetings, preferably the official in charge of an area who can help with his understanding of the subject being worked on. The leadership is obligated to accept the invitation because from the viewpoint of the basic organization as a whole it is not a matter of indifference whether the groups hold unified positions and views.

The group leader is always the one responsible for preparing the agenda, even if someone else draws it up. Therefore, he must also prepare himself in the subject matter because he must not improvise or lapse into contradictions at the meeting.

When? How?

When, how and with what a KISZ group should occupy itself is an eternal question and problem. Still, what could be more natural than that the content should be defined by the permanent and newly appearing tasks of the basic organization and by the annual action program, the "when" by the current nature at all times of the matters, and the "how" by the nature of the task to be worked on. Thus the KISZ group meetings, depending on how they are linked to the membership assemblies of the basic organization, can anticipate and follow these latter meetings.

They can anticipate if they cooperate in the preparation. At such times, the group members express their views, make proposals, and mobilize for a task. They can follow if after the membership meeting the goal is the further working out of the task and a deeper orientation of the young people. But a meeting may also be independent where the subject to be worked on is only linked to the work of the group and does not directly affect the other members of the basic organization.

...And What Kind?

Depending on the subject, the agenda of the group meetings may be of an evaluating nature, task-defining, rendering of an opinion, preparatory, proposalmaking, mobilizing or informational.

The evaluating KISZ group meetings represent a permanent and continuous work form. After a job is completed, the possibility of a summary must be looked for. In respect to method, the evaluation must always be personal and concrete, comparing the objective and subjective elements. And it must also be continuous because it is in this way that the individual undertakings and the collective charges can be followed attentively and the education program distributed by persons can be realized. At the continuous midyear evaluation, we can achieve our goals only with the help of democratic debate.

A group meeting can be task defining only if the discussion is conducted for the solution of the given task or one defined by the group. Such meetings may occur on various occasions, for example, in working out the action program, in preparing a program or action or if the collective is seeking how to solve a task prescribed by the leadership of the basic organization. The tasks may belong to the work of the group or the individual.

The goal of the opinion-rendering, preparatory and proposal-making group meetings is cooperation in working out tasks at the basic organizational level for the solution of a given task and the assembling of ideas and proposals pertaining to the path to be followed. Unfortunately, the groups rarely organize such meetings. Only in the preparation of the two spring meetings has it become general. This weakness should be reflected on because those programs in whose preparation the entire KISZ membership participates better meet the demands and desires of the KISZ membership, at the same time they are more practical and therefore less energy is needed to organize their execution.

Discussions of a mobilizing nature are also important because mobilization is nothing more than the winning over of young people to the matter. Therefore it is necessary to have manifold reasoning, explanations, and emphasis on essential questions. We must win over the young people both intellectually and emotionally to the solution of our actions. Generally, mobilization is necessary for central-type tasks. The various KISZ actions can be of this kind, but programs organized by party organizations, more important military tasks, and social work actions also belong here.

In addition to mobilization-, information- and orientation-type meetings are also a very useful work form. Their goal is to inform the youth of central events, phenomena, problems, and anticipated tasks. Most frequently the goal is to propagate the resolution or the program of a guiding KISZ committee or party organization. That is, subjects belong here which do not immediately signify a task.

Regarding Preparation

The mode and manner of preparing KISZ group meetings is determined primarily by the substance of the questions to be worked out, for the task is different if we are only informing, or evaluating, or mobilizing.

The grouping outlined here is of course not a "recipe," for the individual tasks merge into one another and integrate, and at the most we can sort them out by grouping what needs to be said. For example, with information we are already agitating, orienting and mobilizing.

In summary, therefore, the KISZ group should occupy itself with all such questions as affect the members of the KISZ group and is of interest in what it has undertaken. Thus all tasks (political, cultural, sport, collective-forming, educational and other) which face a basic organization are

also tasks of the KISZ group. Their characteristic is that the action program of the basic organization is determining in the execution of these tasks, and it is the duty of the KISZ group to act on basis of the resolution of the basic organization.

In many questions (membership acceptance, disciplinary accountability, recommendation for party membership) the KISZ group has proposalmaking rights, but the decision is a matter for the basic organization as a whole.

Leadership School

The KISZ group trains its own leaders, and one or two young people will stand out among those engaged in undertakings of the same type and subject. Group experimentation and testing of leadership talent is accompanied by relatively less risk in the group. The risk is less because the group can correct weaknesses with the help of the leadership of the basic organization, and an open, friendly and democratic atmosphere will frequently prevent the committing of errors. It is the task of the greater collective, primarily of the leading organs and bodies, to help young people who have distinguished themselves like this and to prepare them for political, trade and leadership work in the various study courses and continuation training.

Not To Be Forgotten!

The KISZ committees must take into account in a far-reaching manner the existence of KISZ groups working in the basic organizations under their guidance. The groups must be taken into account in planning, organizing, information work, agitation, decisionmaking, supervision, evaluation, or in a word in the entire process of leadership work.

In making preparations, the KISZ committees must endeavor to prepare the leadership of the basic organizations for guidance of the KISZ groups. Considerable attention must be paid to developing proper work distribution, to the organization of the activism network in the KISZ groups, the members of which participate in special competency preparatory work and thereby reduce the burden of the group leaders. This is of particular importance in the case of those engaged in agitation, political training, trade study, public education and sport work.

Question of "Priority"

In the passing of KISZ committee resolutions and decisions, account must be taken of the difficulties of working them out at the basic organization level. It is always a question whether a given subject should be presented first at a membership or leadership meeting.

The basic motif here, too, is whether we shall begin familiarization with and discussion of a task at a group or membership meeting. The main arena must be the membership meeting, where the subject, however, can be approached

only in generalities. The way exists at a group meeting for discussion and task definition based on conviction and distribution among persons. Therefore a given committee resolution must give guidance for the manner of working out a problem. At the same time, it is possible to define those tasks which can be adequately discussed at a leadership meeting. (But in this case as well, the membership must be informed of the results at the next membership meeting.)

The KISZ committee can directly define tasks also for the groups, or ask for a report on their work. There will always be some groups whose place, role and importance will be significant not only in the basic organization but also in the life of the entire KISZ organization, and in some cases these may even be determining. The KISZ committees must pay attention to these groups!

In the groups it must be taken into account that because of transmissions the time for rationalizing and executing the tasks is prolonged, and this also must be reckoned with.

Regarding Work Distribution

The development of proper work distribution is also extremely important in the basic organization, particularly in the case of KISZ groups.

Unfortunately, in some places an improper practice has come about in the basic organizations in that several young people are expected to perform all the tasks--particularly the planning, organizing and supervising jobs.

Nowadays work distribution within the basic organizations is not on the level that could be expected. Frequently, spontaneity is characteristic rather than deliberateness.

If we search for the causes of this improper practice, it becomes evident that in some places the secretary of the basic organization takes the initiative on himself in everything and thus the officers in charge of special areas do not have a task.

Or the setting of requirements may not be satisfactory, everyone works spontaneously on the basis of his knowledge and good feelings. Perhaps lack of training or the failure of the leadership to regard it as necessary for the membership to participate in the work causes problems. Maybe this is because of earlier bad experiences: hurt feelings, subjectivism, cliques, poor group-work habits. Or they are unable to sort out, differentiate and integrate the parts of the task appropriately.

To eliminate existing weaknesses we can do best with better planned and more conscious cadre work, better organization of the task to be performed in the individual groups and more deliberate composition, grouping and understanding.

Work distribution is an essential element of collective leadership and an indispensably necessary condition for carrying out the tasks. Some kind of work distribution will at any rate develop in every case if a given task system, such as the action program of the KISZ basic organizations, must be carried out by a collective in which there are KISZ groups and in which everyone has a different sphere of interest, different experiences, training and body of knowledge. Practice is the standard which shows whether the work distribution is good or not, or where it needs to be corrected.

The development of work distribution is always the task of the basic organization's leadership, a leadership activity which assures the practical realization of leadership and its coming into being, and assures democratism and centralism as well. There is a particular need for work distribution when KISZ groups are established and if they have a large number of personnel.

Independence and Dependence

The groups must carry out the action program of the basic organization, and therefore their independence is relative. For this reason also the leadership of the basic organization must devote great attention to the work conducted there, to guidance, assistance, accountability of the group leaders, and supervision.

The guiding work of the basic organization's leadership is effectively realized if in the KISZ groups one can find in assigned form those basic, special competencies which exist in the leadership. The individual officers in charge of special areas, together with the commissioned activists, form a small work committee which makes possible thereafter the coordination of the work of the KISZ groups and the development of collective undertakings in harmony with the action groups. In this case, effective joint work can be developed in the KISZ groups, among the groups, and in the basic organization.

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SYSTEMIC CAUSES OF OVERCENTRALIZATION EXAMINED

Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish No 23, 7 Jun 80 p 3

[Article by Ernest Skalski]

[Text] In the Warsaw telephone book one can count 102 associations [zjednoczenia], and this is far from being the total number in the country, because there are those which have their headquarters outside of Warsaw and do not have branches in the capital. There are also those about which it is known for certain that they were created after the telephone book was composed, while no one knows about any associations which had been eliminated during this time.

We react reflexively to every mention of bureaucracy, stating that there is too much of it and that it certainly works badly. Frequently, we are not in error, but such statements end up with complaints, according to the principle that no one is innocent. On the other hand, the organizations which are accused wholesale do deserve, I suppose, an honest trial with proofs of their disutility or harmfulness in those cases where these aspects of their activity are predominant. There tend to be no situations in which there are nothing except pluses or nothing except minuses.

I suppose that no one will deny the necessity for centralization in the railroads or energy. On the other hand, one can be puzzled by such an Association of Sugar Industry Enterprises, which has the telegraph-style name of "Centrokarmel." To what purpose must producers of filled chocolate bars associate and maintain a common authority? After all, there must be some purpose.

We have long been accompanied by such reflections, but they appear to be most timely during the period, promised in the expose of the Premier, of examining structures and reorganizing the management system by 1983.

The Logic of the System

Alexis de Tocqueville sees the forms of citizens' activities as dependent upon the character of public institutions. There, where the citizens

independently decide about the majority of their affairs and public matters are concentrated at the level of the autonomous unit of local government [gmina], all that remains to the state are a few, albeit important, problems pertaining to the whole community; during Tocqueville's time these were primarily matters of foreign policy. Since that time, however, that liberal state system of the 19th century has not survived anywhere.

That classic of political science contrasts this system with a system in which state echelons decide, or reserve to themselves the right to decide, in nearly all matters of their territorial units and of the inhabitants of their country.

In the first case, all activity depends primarily upon those who carry it out and whom it pertains to directly. Organizations created for this purpose, therefore, must, within the framework of general legal regulations, have a form suited to their function. Consequently, this form is variegated, unschematic, and limited to the area of action. These forms will be completely independent or linked with local authorities who make the decisions in matters interesting these organizations, but who are also susceptible to the influences of their community and its institutions.

In a centralized system, the legitimation for all public activity, including economic activity, is above all the delegation of rights by the authorities on each separate occasion. The rights which are delegated may be narrowed, expanded, or withdrawn. There also that activity will be encompassed in structures which make it possible for the central authorities to fulfill their leading and controlling tasks.

No system falls completely into either one or the other category.

Nevertheless, every system by which public institutions function can somehow be placed on a scale of a greater or lesser degree of centralization. The principle of democratic centralism, by which our state is guided, does not determine the degree of centralization. Its democratic character is derived from the fact that the sovereign nation grants plenipotentiary power to its central representative organs. Different scopes of competence enjoyed by the individual executive organs can be fitted in this system.

It was in the area of economics that the principle of centralism found its relatively most full expression. This was because the economy seems to be suited in greater degree than other areas of society's life to management from the top.

That structure which seems easiest to manage is the one that is as uniform as possible, is built according to one scheme, and is subject to the same control criteria. Since it is directed in rather great detail, a multi-echelon system becomes necessary. The center has a limited number of

channels by which it can communicate in detail with the units subordinated to it, so it acts through the instrumentality of the intermediate echelons.

If some area of activity and some part of the productive-administrative apparatus expands and, consequently, complicates things, then simplifications and efficiency improvements are carried out by means of vertical divisions into new branches and administrations. Thus, next to one another we have associations for the following industries: sawmills and timber products, construction carpentry, and plywood and matches.

A process of ever narrower specialization of individual areas and of their ever greater dependence upon cooperation, understood in a wide sense, regulated by superior echelons of the high cooperating departments, follows. If the units involved belong to different departments, then coordination takes place at the level of the central decision-maker. In this way the cycle is lengthened. The search for horizontal contacts also has its faults, because sometimes numerous researches and analyses are needed before one hits upon the right partner. But the dominance of the top-bottom principle comes, among other things, from the fact that it does more to facilitate control and supervision.

The system of high departments coexists with a territorial division--formerly three-tiered, now two-tiered--which is much more comprehensive in the matter of its scopes of activity. Nevertheless, the agencies of the local authorities generally correspond to the structure of central authority, which is linked to the principle of dual subordination. This is because both voivodship governors and gmina chiefs, on the one hand, and the appropriate departments, on the other, simultaneously have responsibilities for sections and institutions.

The vertical system is by degrees showing itself almost everywhere to be the stronger. Local industry is being transferred to the key departments. Trade, hotel management, and the majority of communal services are also being linked into national structures, are slimming out, and are creating central authorities for themselves, even while remaining in partial dependence upon local institutions and authorities.

This trend even encompasses the cooperative sector, which, in principle, is supposed to be autonomous, local, and variegated. It is an important part of the economy and is ever more tightly integrated with the whole, so it must perforce adapt itself to the general rules of activity, including organizational models. See the discussion with M. Walczak, POLITYKA No 17, 1980.

This process also pertains to social organizations, and this is true not only in connection with the economic activities undertaken by some of them; see PTTK [Polish Tourist and Local Studies Society], POLITYKA No 15, 1980. The state, supporting its statutory purposes and striving to raise

the status of social bodies, entrusts to them a part of its tasks by creating convenient legal norms and often by transferring considerable resources to them. This pertains to almost every organization which is active in the important sector of social life. This induces them, however, to create an organizational schema which is a reflection of the structure of the authorities. Almost everything, therefore, is national in scale, and has province--until recently also county--and city and rural parish echelons. Attempts to depart from this schema which were made at the time of the administrative reform generally did not end with success. Actually, the authorities at every level had a practical interest in the existence of an appropriate echelon at their level, since this significantly facilitated cooperation.

The Rush Upward

It would be naive to suppose that our system of organization is altogether the product of planning and thinking down to every detail. If it were so, the matter would be relatively simple. Having noticed the low effectiveness of such a structure or of its parts, we could in a logical manner change and improve it. In fact, oft made attempts to decentralize have, as it were, met with the opposition of that which was to be decentralized. Along with centrifugal tendencies intending to gain greater independence for individual units and echelons, there exists a tendency from the bottom up to link together, to create umbrella organizations, and to slim out one's own structure.

This can be influenced by many variegated factors. Frequently, for example, ambition is one of them. A director of an enterprise will strive to increase his scope of decision-making, calculating that this will help him in getting better effects. The best effects, however, will not assure him the self-generated growth of his unit and, in the absence of decision from the top and of appropriate means, will not cause the growth of the enterprise into the dimensions of a great organization, and so on. He can attain this only in the framework of tasks established by superior units. This same director can find himself at that higher, decision-making level. That superior structure, therefore, is, despite his complaints about the limits which it imposes on him, needed for his career.

This pertains even more to the chairman of a Rural Commune Cooperative or a small housing or labor cooperative, the director of some base [facility], or the director of a small formerly local factory which found itself in the vertical system and opened possibilities of hierarchical advancement only when it became part of a "key." The activists of social organizations who are counting on advancement to the province level and the capital and who, therefore, need an appropriate apparatus for their advancement track can place their ambitions in a similar system.

If we are to agree with such a course of reasoning, then we would reach the conclusion that the existence of slim organizational structures limits

the independence of basic units, but that this limitation channels ambitions in the direction of maintaining or even developing those structures.

Another pragmatic factor, however, seems, more important, especially in recent years: the ever more centralized system for allocating basic resources, money, limits, processing capability, tools, raw materials, etc. If every building manager could at every moment buy paint or a broom or call in a roofer, bricklayer, and plumber, ready to perform his services, then probably he would be able not to associate with anybody and would need no ADM [Administration for Residence Buildings], PGM [possibly State Housing Administration], and association, but only the owner of the structure.

If we had an excess of materials and processing capability in construction, small and independent housing cooperatives could certainly continue to function. The investor and various nonassociated cooperatives would choose among contractors, and the contractor would choose among suppliers of machines and materials, much like a candy factory can buy sugar at the nearest sugar mill, flour at the mill, and everything else at the wholesaler's.

If, however, there is a city, voivodship, or national quota for coal, foreign currency, or emulsive paint, then the candy manufacturers, building owners, and producers of shoes must be appropriately represented at the respective level.

The existence of a common structure for tailors from Szczecin and Przemysl and for the food trade in Jelenia Gora and Bialystok is sometimes explained by the need for coordination and exchange of information. This is clearly purposeful when it comes to agreeing upon technical solutions, product standards, market policy, etc, but some not overly formalized plane--a congress, publication, or mutual visit--would suffice for this purpose. Nevertheless, a common organization not justified by considerations of technology and production sometimes turns out to be necessary to gain resources.

Representation at the province and, ever more frequently, national center for allocation must be appropriately strong and important. Thus, this function will be performed by a central union or association, by something which the central distributor can recognize as a representative of a whole branch and as a spokesman for a society-wide problem.

There is no reason to be surprised that this representative, by receiving resources for the whole branch, itself becomes an authority for the units composing it. The association is such a representative, by statute, in fact; but all the central cooperative unions are ceasing now to be an emanation of autonomous cooperatives and are becoming a superior center which benefits from the legitimation given to it by a countrywide congress or assembly. In a word, we have a new vertical structure.

Results and Intentions

Generally, I suppose, one can say that the creation of vertical--or perhaps more properly, pyramidal, because the base still is wider than the summit--organizational structures has certain justification, even apart from extreme examples. If, however, something is rational in not overly favorable conditions, it is difficult to talk about a generally optimal solution. The existence of an organization which is to insure supplies of tar paper and glue, therefore, is purposive in its own way, but those conditions would be optimal under which it would be possible to patch a hole in a roof when it appears, and not when the appropriate authorities recognize the propriety of patching it and allocate the resources to do so.

We are, in general, inclined to see the evil of bureaucracy in the existence of an official apparatus which costs us money and without which we could not get by. This, however, is the way in which it would be if this apparatus remained in complete isolation from the economic and social organism which it administers. In reality, however, the inconvenience resulting from the forced existence of these echelons and organizational umbrellas derives primarily from something else. The worst burden resulting from overly slim organizational structures is that they might obstruct the most rational activities of subordinate units and sometimes force them into actions which are necessary to a degree, but only from the point of view of that structure, or are simply illusory. In these conditions natural and real horizontal relations between the subjects of the economy and social life are subject to being braked for the benefit of top-bottom and bottom-top relations. In certain situations the losses caused by this system of vertical suction-pressure pumps begin decidedly to exceed the benefits resulting from central disposition of resources or of seeing the entirety of matters from the top and with a wide perspective, although frequently these pluses are unarguable.

Actually, the subjects in such conditions partially cease to be subjects and more and more become parts of a large machine. The price then paid for certain conveniences which flow from this under certain conditions is a limitation of initiative and flexibility and a decline of interest in the direct results of one's own work and an increased interest in recognition from the top. These are, actually, matters discussed and known for years.

Attempts to bring order into these structures have also been made many times. The administrative reform, which decidedly and lastingly flattened out the apparatus of state authority and representative organs, was the most far-reaching and universal attempt. This, however, has been accompanied up to now by the preservation of the mechanisms which, from the top and from the bottom, strive toward centralization.

The government declaration promised an improvement in the system of management. The overview and improvement of structures is to last to 1983. This year's 5 percent reduction of employment in the state and economic administration, therefore, is worth treating not only as a savings measure, but

also as the beginning of the rationalization of the structure which it affects. An inseparable part of this package of transformation is to be the law about enterprises, which is to determine the legal limits on their autonomy and to enhance their role of subject. Only in such a complex of actions will the transformation of structures not be a blow aimed blindly at bureaucracy or a praxeological improvement somewhat isolated from reality. This is because there ought also to be a change of the conditions shaping the system of management, and we need not add that increasing the effectiveness of actions at all levels is linked with lowering the degree of centralization.

What is at stake is not merely the demolition of structures and a shift from one extreme to another. It is simply that, in the process of centralization, we have gone somewhat too far for the current level of our development and intend to correct this.

CSO: 2600

REVISION OF CURRENT PRICE SUBSIDY SYSTEM CALLED FOR

Warsaw POLITYKA in Polish No 18, 3 May 80 p 4

[Article by Andrzej Mozolowski: "To Subsidize: Who? Whom? For What?"]

[Text] The government subsidizes, we know. It subsidizes meat, milk, coal, bus tickets, sugar, central heating, and many other goods and services. As we learned from Edward Babiuch, the new premier's Sejm exposé, budget supplements to the retail prices of goods and services are tremendous; they amount to about 500 billion zlotys each year. In reporting on this matter, the premier also stated that the present subsidy system "goes far beyond that which is socially reasonable". And he also promised some changes.

We frequently say that the government supplements. Actually, it would be more accurate to say that society supplements. Itself. If sums are to be paid out of the budget to subsidize articles that are sold below prime costs, i.e., at a loss, then sums must be added to the budget from sales of articles sold at a profit. In other words, we must pay more for some goods and services in order to purchase others for less.

But in considering the matter as a whole, we can say that we have nothing to worry about: what it amounts to is taking money from one pocket and putting it into another.

Of course, such reasoning would be basically erroneous for society cannot be regarded as a monolith; it is not at all a matter of indifference as to the pocket from whence the money is taken, or into which pocket it is put. Nor which goods (or services) are bearers of accumulation, and which, in exchange for this, we buy "at half price". And finally, we must consider whether, taking the subsidies as a whole, they are not too high.

For two basic reasons. Because in the first place we can make accessible to people, even to those earning the least money, goods and services satisfying the most basic needs. In subsidizing the manufacturers, we make it possible for them to manufacture unprofitable goods, those produced at a loss. In addition, we protect the consumers, naturally only to a certain degree, from drastic world price increases of raw materials and goods which we import.

In the second place, in this way we are shaping a consumption structure, directing it into more socially and economically desirable directions, stimulating supply--and demand--in some spheres and inhibiting it in others. Thus subsidies are an element of pricing policies, due to which, speaking symbolically, we sell liquor dear in order to sell textbooks cheap. In other cases, social reason is replaced by economic reason: whey, for example, can be bought in a dairy for the ridiculous price of half a penny per liter, simply so that it should not be wasted.

What is Shared? What is Personal?

Assumptions are healthy. Budget subsidies are applied not only in all socialist countries, but in general in all modern states.

But in the course of time, as a result of the one-sided understanding of pricing policies, and because of the sociopolitical nature, the growing subsidies resulting from the deteriorating structure of retail prices began to depart from the principles of social fairness, sometimes granting more privileges to the better-off people than to those who were the worst off and who should have benefited from them. They also began to distort the structure of consumption, damaging the economy and aggravating market imbalance.

The basic group of subsidized articles, absorbing about two-thirds of the so-called object subsidies, is food. In the food group, meat and meat products take the lead. Despite considerable sales at commercial prices, over 67 billion zlotys will be paid out of the budget this year to subsidize meat. Next come the dairy products (36.4 billion), cereal products (15.3 billion), sugar (14.3 billion), fish (9.5 billion). Lesser sums are allocated for supplementing prices of cooking oils, potatoes, fruit products, etc.

The third group concerns the supplying of farming with means of production: here we refer to industrial feeds (15.7 billion zlotys), fertilizers (5.1 billion), seed materials (3 billion), and agricultural machinery and tools.

In addition, very large sums, over 50 billion zlotys, are added to the municipal economy (including urban transportation, central heating, etc.), passenger transport (over 22 billion), and construction materials (7.6 billion).

We cite only the main items--it is impossible to name them all. In any case, that is not necessary. But it is worth considering whether all the named (and not named) subsidies are actually useful, fair, and proper.

At this point it would be well to define which goods or services are--at our level of social affluence--absolutely indispensable to the individual. The scientists are in conflict on this subject. It is not easy to come up with a definition, particularly since the concept of indispensability changes rapidly with time (at one time, for example, a radio was synonymous with luxury, yet today Dr. Andrzej Tymowski regards it, no doubt justifiably, as a social minimum). In any case, in many instances there is no doubt at all.

Milk, for example, or bread, regarded traditionally as the bases for human existence, must be cheap and there can be no question that it cannot be sold at commercial prices. But the question is whether social considerations justify subsidizing such a dairy product as, for example, cream. Or, should we subsidize the pastry lovers?

From another field: jams, marmalades--the sweets of multi-children families, the youth in boarding schools and hostels, the retired people; this is surely worth a billion and a half zlotys which we give to the manufacturers so that they can sell their products cheaper than they actually cost to make. But must we finance the consumption of mustard, or cabbage rolls in tomato sauce? Personally, I doubt it. The purchase of a streetcar or bus ticket should not constitute a financial problem for anyone. But I am not absolutely convinced that we have an obligation to endow the motorcycle lovers with several hundred million zlotys, selling them below their production cost. Or musical instruments for the music lovers, etc.

A ticklish subject. The reader may think (and I am afraid that many really think so) that the author is calling ("laying the groundwork", they may say), for a price increase (for what is a lowering or elimination of price supplements to this or that item if not an increase?), in order to fill the gap of goods on the market; in other words, in order to reduce our purchasing ability; or still another way: hit the people in the pocketbook!

Nothing of the kind. I repeat: the tactic of budget subsidies is the instrument of a State's social policy, which comes down to transferring money from one fragment of the market to another, increasing some prices in order to maintain others at a low level. The size of prices in general, the drain on the market, and other anti-inflation measures, are also serious problems, but we are not concerned with them here.

I suspect, and I am even certain, that the policy of financing consumption of many food items or services is unappreciated and not understood by a large segment of society. We have become accustomed to these low prices, we treat them as something very natural, but we become angry and irritated at the high, and increasing prices of other items. When subsidies are mentioned, we hear, sometimes quite ironically: "Before the war, people made a living from this, and did not do too badly, but now, it is incredible--we subsidize their business!" Such opinions are expressed not only in reference to cases of disorder, incompetence and waste (in these instances indignation is entirely warranted), but also to the sale of subsidized goods.

Thus it is well that we are aware that the irritating growth in many prices results partly from the accumulation with which they are burdened, so essential to the financing of other items. It is also good to know that the ability to purchase specified goods or services at low prices is in one way or another paid for by the purchaser; if not in the form of higher prices for other goods or services, then in the form of wages, family assistance, old age pensions, which otherwise would be higher.

It Is Very Difficult

To subject the amount and direction of subsidies to audit is one matter, but to find ways to improve them is another matter. A very difficult matter.

One may think: What could be more simple? Where necessary, increase the price, and using the "saved money" reduce the price of something else. Much simplicity in proceeding would, however, be ruinous. Price maneuvers must be conducted in such a way as to guarantee that the amount lost by the consumer in the increase of one price, would be recovered by the consumer in the decrease of another price. Or, operate always with two goods (one with a high accumulation, the other sold below prime costs), which to the same degree participate in the budget of specified social groups. This is an unbelievably difficult task, almost impossible to execute.

Another problem: Articles with prices containing the highest accumulations, as, for example, automobiles, color televisions, etc., are precisely those which are scarce on the marketplace. Reduce their prices? That would aggravate the shortage, create still better conditions for speculation, and whet the appetites of people making use of influences and agreements.

Of course there is a group of goods with a very high accumulation, which is also produced in amounts entirely satisfying the demand: alcohol. But can we imagine that the price on alcohol would be reduced? On the contrary, social considerations indicate otherwise.

There is another way to compensate for budget subsidies restrictions: By paying those who by the subsidies are losing equivalent value. In the form, e.g., of higher family subsidies, higher pensions, to the lowest wages. The proposal to eliminate sugar subsidies, presented by premier Babiuch, speaks of still another form of recompense: A voluntary exchange, for slotys, of coupons to which everyone is entitled. This method ideally fulfills its aim--everyone gets exactly in slotys what he loses in the right to buy cheap sugar.

Unfortunately, this method cannot be applied in other cases. What's more, there are cases in which one would want to give the equivalent for a higher price, but not to everyone; or, in those cases in which a low support price could be maintained, but not for every purchaser. An example is the proposal to increase rents--a higher rent for families with fewer members than number of rooms occupied. For if a single person occupies a two- or three-room dwelling which is subject to housing allocation, it seems proper that that person pay an unsubsidized rent. Similarly, it seems fair that subsidies be maintained, so that rents are lower, for a family living in smaller quarters. There was a time, we remember, when density norms were in effect, forcing some people, sometimes in a very painful way, to stay within the dwelling sizes that were deemed to be socially just. These methods are not pleasant to recall. It seems that the use of material incentives to regulate the size of dwellings in accordance with the general housing situation is a much better method.

The subject is far from exhausted. It is sufficient to describe the range of difficulty, escalating before the realizers of the intended goals. Another difficulty is convincing society of its purpose and how these goals will be executed in accordance with fair play principles. "Each price operation evokes negative reactions in people", a sociologist friend told me. "There are always those who are wronged, and the remaining ones join them willingly in their complaints, because this is useful to them. Every billion taken from prices on the market should be recompensed with two billion, and even then I don't know but that there would be those who would be dissatisfied..."

Our Neighbors

It is quite interesting that all socialist countries find themselves in a similar situation, to a greater or lesser degree. But why they? Because, among other things, every one of them tried, by applying heavy production subsidies, to shield its citizens from the consequences of world inflation. As a result, retail prices deviated more and more from production costs, and even more from world prices, and the structure of domestic prices underwent progressive deformation.

Hungary is a vivid example of this, and the new price system introduced to counteract this phenomenon is an interesting illustration (Szymon Jakubowicz wrote about this new system in an article, "The Hungarian Experience", -- POLITYKA 17). It may be concluded that the application of retail prices in Hungary to production costs and linking them with world prices will cause a very far reaching reduction of budget subsidies to goods and services. This process is to be spread out over four or five years.

How it will be here, it is too early to say. Only one thing appears certain: there will be no drastic moves or surprises (...the change in the structure of prices must be gradual and distributed over several years. We must do nothing hasty in this field..."--from the premier's exposé. It is also certain that healing the price structure is a much broader matter than the subsidy system. It means that the entire sphere of price policies and social policies must be reworked, and further, that sweeping moves will have to be made in the planning and management system.

9295

CSO: 2600

PREVENTION, TREATMENT OF CIRCULATORY DISEASES DISCUSSED

Warsaw SLUZBA ZDROWIA in Polish No 20, 16 May 80 pp 1, 4

[Address by Prof Maria Hofman, M. D. At The Conference of The 12th Problem Team of the Eighth PZPR Congress]

[Text] The population of our country has been greatly threatened by the epidemic-like increase in heart diseases which is occurring in all countries but particularly in those which are highly developed. If I may quote from a report of the World Health Organization, published several years ago, it is stated there that "coronary disease is the largest epidemic recorded in the history of mankind up to the present." The causes of such a dynamic development of circulatory system diseases have to be sought in and closely connected with, among other things, the progress of civilization and of Poland's industrialization, the growing pollution of the environment, the increasing tempo and intensity of the life of a contemporary man, frequent conflicts and difficulties of everyday life, and the unfavorable change in nutrition habits. Large epidemics of virus infections, recurring every few years, also have considerable influence on some diseases.

It is obvious that the rapid increase in the sickness and mortality rates caused by heart diseases must and does have direct and decisive influence not only on that most important factor which is a person's health in a socialist state, but also on various economic indexes of national economy.

The assumptions, goals and expected results of a currently proposed new national research and development program of prevention and treatment of circulatory system diseases are based on an in-depth assessment of the current epidemiological situation in the area of the most frequent circulatory system diseases in Poland, on an extrapolation of some selected world data, on envisaged development trends during the next 20-year period, and also on an analysis of the resultant needs and tasks of the entire cardiological treatment system.

The fragmentary population research conducted in the past few years, as well as the available statistical data concerning the structure of the causes of deaths, hospitalization, absence because of illness, and disability,

prove that coronary disease and arterial hypertension play a dominant role among circulatory system diseases. Both disease units show, moreover, an equal trend toward increase. Susceptibility to these diseases, and also mortality because of them, are increasing both in the older and in the younger age group of Polish society.

An 84-percent increase in the mortality of men and 81 percent in that of women caused by various circulatory system diseases was recorded in Poland in 1961-1977, and of up to 100 percent in both sexes with regard to the coronary disease. The proportion of deaths caused by heart diseases to total of deaths increased during the same time from 27 to 42 percent among men and from 31 to 49 percent among women. What should also be brought out is the gradual disappearance of differences in the structure of death causes depending on place of residence and, therefore, of differences between the city and the village. At present, every other death among the city and village population of Poland is caused by a circulatory system disease. Special note should be taken of the fact that the recorded increase in mortality as caused by heart diseases is independent of the process of aging of Polish population and of the improvement in the determining of the causes of deaths.

Similar tendencies appear also in the reasons for hospitalization. The number of men patients examined in hospitals increased 78 percent during the 10 investigated years, and of women patients by 48 percent. There is a further trend toward increase, and it currently amounts to an average of 10,000 patients annually. Therefore, the increase in the number of heart patients examined in hospitals exceeds considerably both the population increase noted during the same time and the increase in the total number of examined patients. A particularly rapid increase in the hospital sick rate coefficients occurs already from 30-39 years on, especially among men and also among village population and, consequently, in a group of people who are fully capable of producing.

The hospital mortality of patients with circulatory system diseases continues to be, in spite of a systematic improvement of possibilities of therapy, three times higher, and for heart-attack patients four times higher, than the mortality of all hospitalized patients.

There is also a sharp increase in work disability. During the last 15 years of investigation, the number of days of absence increased from 90 to 257 per 100 employed persons, and so almost threefold. The total number of days of absence is at present 30 million annually.

An extrapolation of the data concerning the sick rate caused only by heart attacks makes it possible to assume that every year in Poland approximately 70,000 persons are stricken with heart attacks, 26 percent of whom die during the first hours of the disease, and approximately 45 percent of whom do not survive beyond 1 year. Taking into account the fact that the highest

sickness rate occurs in the 55th year of life among men, and that half of the patients who are under 45 die in the prehospital period, it is possible to calculate what enormous losses to the economy are thus produced.

The sickness rate as related to arterial hypertension among the population over 16 years of age is estimated at about 12 percent for men and 19 percent for women. The extrapolation of these data to all of Poland makes it possible to conclude that currently in Poland there live over 3 million persons with high blood pressure, at least 1.5 million of whom require systematic treatment. It can be assumed that approximately 150,000-300,000 persons have so-called secondary hypertension which can be eliminated in about 10 percent (15,000-300,000) of those through surgical treatment.

The frequency of occurrence of congenital heart defects in liveborn children amounts to 8-10/1000. Assuming the number of live births in Poland to be 645,000 annually, one should note that approximately 5,000 children are born with congenital heart defects. Without surgical treatment 70 percent of these children must die in the first year of their lives.

In spite of a marked decline in the number of rheumatic-fever cases, the number of acquired heart defects being discovered continues to be enormous. It is estimated that there are in Poland approximately 40,000 patients with acquired heart defects, the majority of whom require surgical treatment.

The already conducted tests of mortality prognosis indicate that in a 40-year period (1961-2000) mortality caused by circulatory system diseases will increase nearly threefold, and mortality caused by coronary disease will increase nearly five times. One should also take into account the possibility that 1.5 million persons will be affected by coronary disease, and close to 5 million persons will suffer from arterial hypertension.

Just some of the epidemiological data presented here in a greatly abridged form clearly outline and illustrate the tremendous tasks and needs of cardiological therapy as well as the most important directions of scientific research.

On the basis of already mentioned epidemiological research and analyses of sickness and death rates resulting from circulatory system diseases, it can be stated with complete assurance that in Poland there exists a group of several million heart patients which not only is incapable of productive work but which, moreover, requires increasing and enormous outlays for treatment and for disability pensions. A still more numerous group consists of persons who are actually threatened by heart disease. However, the most tragic group, which numbers hundreds of thousands, is made up of persons who die prematurely, very often in the full bloom of their creativity and at the peak of their professional experience and achievement. It is impossible to calculate the losses suffered by our society, which loses every year considerable numbers of persons who are highly qualified, were educated at a great expense, and whose serviceability is very great.

The experiences of those countries which organized early their national programs of combating circulatory system diseases and are implementing them consistently, prove that it is possible to oppose effectively the already mentioned threat. However, the condition for the success of such a program is the creation and efficient functioning of a modern, comprehensive and centrally coordinated organization of cardiological therapy including and committing all levels of health service, as well as the promotion, financing and coordinating of a multidirectional, not only medical, scientific research activity.

Until the present time, the efforts of many years and various organizational moves of the Health Ministry, measured by such real standards as the number of patients who were saved, or who were treated in clinics or in hospitals, by the number of already organized and functioning resuscitation departments, cardiological rehabilitation sanatoriums in Poland, by the amount of outlays for diagnostic, measuring-and-control, or therapy equipment, by just the foreign-exchange cost of close to 2,000 heart pacemakers imported annually or approximately 600 artificial heart valves, and the financial outlays up to the present time for the Ministry's soon-to-be-ended 5-year program of combating circulatory system diseases, have been most assuredly enormous. However, the current domestic epidemiological situation and the most important directions of scientific research resulting from it, as well as the need for diagnostic, preventive, therapeutic and rehabilitation actions, prove the absolute and very urgent necessity to create a national program and an organization of the highest rank for combating circulatory system diseases, with clearly-defined and long-range priorities. It is also indispensable to engage, commit, and include in the scope of such a program many different --not only medical--organizations and administrative, scientific and social units.

The first step toward this goal was the creation by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, in March of last year, a Ministry Institute of Cardiology, which began, after necessary preparations, its independent activity in Warsaw as of 1 January of this year. Its scientific research, organizational, instructional and therapeutic activities are oriented toward two primary goals: creation of a comprehensive plan of prevention and treatment of circulatory system diseases in Poland, and elaboration of a proper organizational structure assuring effectiveness of action. The basic elements of this structure are regional cardiological centers (already established in medical academies in Katowice, Krakow, Poznan, and Lodz), provincial cardiological branches and basic therapy centers.

One should expect that the result of this comprehensive action will be, even in the first 10-year period, the checking of the increase in sickness rate and mortality as caused by circulatory system diseases, and, in the second 10-year period, a decrease of 20-30 percent in mortality caused by heart attacks and arterial hypertension.

Wider application of cardiosurgical therapy will contribute to restoring to active life and professional activity approximately 80 percent of patients

with acquired heart defects, will make it possible to prolong the professional effectiveness of these people by at least 10 years, and will improve substantially the prognosis for children with congenital heart defects. Development of cardiosurgery will make it possible, more frequently than until now, to perform the necessary operations on coronary blood vessels and to treat complications of heart attack more effectively.

Making early rehabilitation a common practice should, additionally, reduce absenteeism and return over 50 percent of treated patients to jobs of active life.

Attainment of real progress in scientific research which is coordinated by a national program in close connection with world science, improvement in the organization of cardiological care, widescope prevention of diseases in potential patients, improvement in the quality of diagnostic and therapy procedures, and systematic postgraduate training, should, during the next 10-year period, bring measurable social effects: 1) tangible improvement of health service benefits, 2) decrease in cases involving basic sickness units, 3) reduction of absenteeism and prolongation of the professional effectiveness of productive-age patients.

The implementation of these difficult objectives has become possible today thanks to a profound understanding of the problem by party and government authorities and, above all, thanks to the initiative of the first secretary of the Central Committee, Edward Gierek, at a meeting with us in April 1978.

The implementation of the comprehensive program will require continued, equally effective as at present, commitment and help of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, and the wide participation of the Polish society.

9476

CSO: 2600

MEMBERS OF GNA PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS NAMED

Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 27, 1 Apr 80 pp 22-23

[Excerpts] On 29 March 1980, in the Palace of the Grand National Assembly, there was a general meeting of the members of the Romanian Group of the Interparliamentary Union. At the conclusion of the meeting, the leadership committee of the Romanian Group of the Interparliamentary Union, composed of the following [Grand National Assembly] deputies, was formed: Chairman--Stan Soare; Deputy Chairmen--Letitia Ionas, Ion Teoreanu and Ilie Vaduva; Secretary--Constantin Flitan; Treasurer--Decebal Urdea; Members--Constanta Balint, Nicu Boboc, Iuliana Bucur, Elena Verona Burtea, Felicia Alexandrina Cornea, Valeriu-Dumitru Cristescu, Mihai Draganescu, Eduard Eisenburger, Mihai Hirjau, Mircea Radu Iacoban, Alexandru Ionescu, Marin Ivascu, Tiberiu Maruesan, Lidia Oradean, Octavian Paler, Ioan Totu, Ionel Silviu Vlad.

On the same day, the Group of Romanian Parliamentarians for Security and Cooperation in Europe, for the current legislature, composed of the following deputies, was formed: Chairman--Marin Radoi; Deputy chairmen--Elena Nae, Eugen Florescu; Secretary; Constantin Mitea; Members--Emanuel Babici, Cameluta Beldie, Stela Chioveanu, Marin Enache, Traian Girba, Maria Ionescu, Stefan Korodi, Margareta Krauss, Lajos Letay, Mircea Mocanu, Filoftela Negrutiu, Maria Georgeta Nichita, Ioan Alexandru Oproiu, Vasile Pungan, Simion Sapunaru, Ioan Tesu and Corneliu Velincov.

CSO: 2700

OFFICERS OF GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PERMANENT COMMISSIONS

Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 27, 1 Apr 80 pp 21,22

[Excerpts] The permanent commissions of the Grand National Assembly, elected on 29 March 1980, met on the same day to elect their chairmen, deputy chairmen and secretaries as follows:

1. Credentials Commission: Chairman--Ion Sirbu; Deputy chairmen--Letitia Ionas and Stelian Teodorescu; Secretary--Trandafir Cocarla.
2. Constitution and Juridical Commission: Chairman--Ioan Salajan; Deputy chairmen--Maria Gheorghe and Ion Teoreanu; Secretaries--Elena Verona Burtea and Constantin Flitan.
3. Commission for Industry and Economic-Financial Activity: Chairman--Emilian Dobrescu; Deputy chairmen--Iuliana Bucur and Gheorghe Dumitrache; Secretaries--Emanoil Babici and Ioan Totu.
4. Commission for Agriculture, Silviculture and Water Management: Chairman--Ion Catrinescu; Deputy chairmen--Vasile Barbulescu and Niculina Moraru; Secretaries--Andrei Balint and Ioan Tesu.
5. Commission for Education, Science and Culture: Chairman--Stan Soare; Deputy chairmen--Petre Danica and Ionel Silviu Vlad; Secretaries--Francisc Foder and Rodica Vilcu.
6. Commission for Health, Labor, Social Security and Environmental Protection: Chairman--Stefan Mocuta; Deputy chairmen--Stefan Korodi and Elena Nae; Secretaries--Ioan Alexandru Oproiu and Lidia Oradean.
7. Commission for Peoples Councils and State Administration: Chairman--Miu Dobrescu; Deputy chairmen--Eva Feder and Gheorghe Stoica; Secretaries--Margareta Krauss and Ioan Siminiceanu.
8. Commission for Defense Problems: Chairman--Ion Coman; Deputy chairmen--Paraschiv Benescu and Ilie Ceaulescu; Secretaries--Gheorghe Blaj and Luigi Martis.
9. Commission for Foreign Policy and International Economic Cooperation: Chairman--Vasile Pungan; Deputy chairmen--Magdalena Filipas and Ilie V. duva; Secretaries--Iuliu Fejes and Maria Ionescu.

EVIDENCE OF ATHEISM AMONG DACIANS DISCUSSED

Bucharest ERA SOCIALISTA in Romanian No 10, 20 May 80 p 52

[Article by Prof Eugen Fruchter, from the "Ienachita Vacarescu" Secondary School in Tirgoviste and Gabriel Mihaescu, from the Tirgoviste County Museum: "The Outlook on the World and Life in the Civilization of the Geto-Dacians"]

[Excerpts] In the Romanian people's concept of the world, researchers have discovered numerous elements of free thought and of atheism, beginning with cultural manifestations during the middle ages. Studying ancient literary and archeological sources, we find, in ancient times also, premises of free thinking, nontheist and antitheist concepts, forerunners of declared atheism.

The seeds of scientific thought which bore fruit in the Geto-Dacian and Daco-Roman cultures made a significant contribution to the intellectual emancipation of the Dacians from the absolute domination of myths.

Renowned authors such as Herodotus and Strabo found, in the world outlook of the Geto-Dacians, the idea of opposition to the gods, of criticizing them and struggling with divine forces unfavorable to the actions of man. The apparently insoluble controversy in regard to the monotheism or polytheism of the Daco-Getan religion represents an issue which should be approached from a completely different angle. Setting aside the well-known arguments of some historians in regard to the existence of a number of gods among the Dacians, it should be said that the dispute deals with a false problem. The scientific history of religions proves the de facto quasinonexistence of an absolute monotheism in world religious practice.

In the case of the religion of the Daco-Getans, the great diversity of their conceptions is proven. One can admit that Christianity found a favorable area for penetration in Dacia, attaching itself to one of these beliefs--the one which accepts the immortality of the soul in another world. However, the existence in pre-Roman Dacia of other beliefs--such as, variations of the Zamolxis cult--and the exceptional religious syncretism in Roman Dacia explain why, up to our days, myths and rituals or

pagan practices have been transmitted and can be seen in the folklore of the Romanian people. If some of these were taken over and canonized by the Christian church so that it would have a greater audience among the masses, others remained outside the practices allowed by the church and were combatted or ignored by the church.

CS0: 2700

BRIEFS

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS--The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that Comrade Nicolae Bozdog is relieved of his position as first deputy minister of domestic trade and appointed deputy minister of technical-material supply and control of the management of fixed assets and director general of the Central for the Recovery and Utilization of Reusable Materials. Comrade Dumitru Petrescu is relieved of his position as deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation and appointed first deputy minister of the Ministry of Domestic Trade. Comrade Doina Ardare is appointed deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation. Comrade Ion Chesa is appointed deputy minister of the Ministry of Technical-Material Supply and Control of the management of fixed assets. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 43, 26 May 80 p 4]

AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA--The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania decrees that Comrade Emilian Manciu is recalled from his position as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Romania to the Syrian Arab Republic. Comrade Grigore Comartin is accredited as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist Republic of Romania to the Syrian Arab Republic. [Excerpts] [Bucharest BULETINUL OFICIAL in Romanian Part I No 43, 26 May 80 p 3]

CSO: 2700

BRIEFS

CRITICISM OF LAWYERS--The legal profession, which is defined by the Constitution as a social service and integral part of legal assistance, does not keep up sufficiently with the changes which are being introduced into the judiciary system. Despite the importance which the legal profession has in protecting constitutionality and laws and thereby also the rights and freedoms of working people and citizens, this institution frequently appears as a bottleneck of the judicial system. It was said at the 4 June meeting of the Judiciary Council within the Federal Chamber of the SFRY Assembly that such a situation is the result of several problems which burden this organization. The number of attorneys is declining every year in Yugoslavia, while the problem of rejuvenating [the legal profession] is becoming ever more acute. Thus, today we have more lawyers over 60 than lawyers under 40 years of age. It was said at the meeting that the independence of the legal profession's function must continue to be preserved, but this must not mean that the legal profession should be left to itself. Social supervision and concern should be even more present in this field, because only in this way can one overcome the weaknesses connected with the inadequate specialization of lawyers, their personnel problems, the self-management transformation of this institution, and other problems. According to Dr Dusan Cotic, judge of the Federal Court, the decline in quality, inadequate specialization, and other problems have led lawyers into a position where neither citizens nor society is satisfied with them. Therefore, Cotic stressed, society should devote much more attention to the system of legal assistance, thus, also to the legal profession. The meeting examined the draft law on rebuilding [the profession] which will be before the Federal Chamber the end of this month. [Text] [Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 5 Jun 80 p 4]

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